FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 FEBRUARY 1984

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command, in its 31 January communique broadcast by Baghdad radio, reported the destruction of five Iranian "naval targets" in the Khowr-e Musa area. A subsequent dogfight in the area resulted in the downing of an Iranian plane, the communique added. All Iraqi naval units and planes returned to base safely. The Iranian military communique for 31 January, carried by Tehran radio, did not report any naval or air engagement in the area. Iraqi attacks in the same area on 1 February resulted in the destruction of three more "naval targets," INA reported.

IRNA provided statistics relating to Iraqi attacks on Iranian residential areas during the 40-month war which included some 4,000 civilians killed and 17,000 wounded and the devastation of over 1,200 villages.

Lebanon

Status of "Free Lebanon" — Information Minister Roger Shayk-hani denied a report of the imminent declaration of a "republic of free Lebanon" in the southern border area, noting that the Lebanese Government "cannot take it seriously," WAKH reported. Shaykhani's statement came after a "senior informed source" in Beirut cited by KUNA had disclosed that a republic would shortly be proclaimed in southern Lebanon under the presidency of Clovis Francis, who comes from the same village as the late "free Lebanon" militia leader Major Sa'd Haddad. A government source said preparations are under way to choose a successor to Haddad but indicated that the status of "free Lebanon" would be the same as under Haddad, KUNA subsequently reported.

Monitored Lebanese media have not mentioned or confirmed another KUNA report that "free Lebanon" militia have seized government offices in Jubb Jannin, a town under Israeli occupation in the western Al-Biqa'.

Other Developments — The Lebanese Army again clashed with Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) forces in areas near Beirut, according to Beirut and the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radios. In Damascus, PSP leader Walid Junblatt warned that a Lebanese Army offensive in the Beirut suburbs and the Ash-Shuf Mountains will end all hope of resuming negotiations over the security plan. He stressed that a political solution requires the departure of President Amin al-Jumayyil and his policy, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Monitored Lebanese and Syrian media have not mentioned or confirmed WAKH's report that Al-Jumayyil will meet with his Syrian counterpart, Hafiz al-Asad.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia will study Britain's offer to sell the Kingdom "sophisticated" weapons, Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan announced in remarks reported by SPA after meeting with visiting Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine. Britain has offered to sell "all" of the weapons it has, the prince said, and it is up to Saudi Arabia to choose what arms it needs.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with King Hassan II in Rabat, MAP reported on 31 January. The PLO leader will resume his tour of African countries shortly after which he will visit several Arab capitals, according to a WAFA report cited by MAP. Meanwhile, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir returned to Amman after participating in the recent Fatah Central Committee meeting in Tunis chaired by 'Arafat, according to Algiers Voice of Palestine radio.

PFLP Secretary General George Habash told a press conference in Prague that "right-wing representatives" of the PLO betrayed the Palestinian people by accepting President Reagan's peace plan, CTK reported. In Libya the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison protested to the Tunisian charge d'affaires "the fact that Tunisia is turning into a center for the activities of the gangs formed by Yasir 'Arafat to assassinate Libyan elements working abroad," JANA reported.

Morocco

Saudi King Fahd held talks with King Hassan, Rabat radio reported. Hassan will visit Libya later this month while Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will visit Morocco during the same month, according to KUNA.

Egypt

Egypt will "not hesitate" to return to the Arab League if asked to do so, President Mubarak said at a news conference reported by MENA. Whether Egypt returns to the League or not, Mubarak added, "we will never relinquish our commitment to Arab issues."

Israel

A "sharp" secret protest has been lodged with the United States by Israel over remarks attributed to Mubarak that the Camp David accords are dead, Jerusalem radio reported. According to the Americans, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali "swore" that such remarks had "never been made," the radio added.

Iran

Practice operations for the "liberation of Jerusalem" maneuver will take place 9-11 February in more than 60 places throughout the country by the organized popular forces, the central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio.

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Al-Asad, Al-Jumayyil To Hold Summit 'Soon'

GF311326 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1839 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Beirut, 30 Jan (WAKH) — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the Lebanese president will hold a bilateral summit soon. The WAKH correspondent in Beirut quoted an official Lebanese source as saying the two presidents agreed to hold this summit during a telephone conversation they had yesterday.

The source said the Syrian and the Lebanese presidents agreed to discuss all the outstanding issues and problems thoroughly and with complete frankness. The source said: "This will be a distinguished event between the two countries, which have a common desire to save Lebanon from its plight."

The source said preliminary contacts will be held during the next few days to formulate a working paper for the forthcoming summit which the source said will be held on a more important and efficient level within the various efforts to define the constructive and efficient role Syria can play to save Lebanon from its plight and help it establish peace, security, and stability all over its land.

'Arafat Chairs Fatah Meeting in Tunis, Departs

LD312329 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, chaired a meeting of the Fatah Central Committee in Tunis. The meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Palestinian arena, the results of the Islamic summit, and the tour brother leader Abu 'Ammar made to a number of African states and to Romania.

The officer in charge of unified Palestinian information, Brother Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, said that the meeting discussed in particular the results of the fourth Islamic summit recently held in Casablanca, Morocco, and the results of the African tour by Brother Abu 'Ammar last week to Senegal, Gambia, and Guinea.

Brother 'Abd ar-Rahman explained that the Fatah Central Committee expressed appreciation for the support given to the PLO by African countries and the adherence of these countries to the African stand toward the Zionist state, that is, not to resume relations with Tel Aviv.

At the same time, it is believed in the Tunisian capital that the PLO will submit a memorandum to the Arab League Secretariat General calling for an improvement in Afro-Arab relations at all levels in order to strike Zionist attempts to return Israel to Afria as a bridgehead for imperialism in the dark continent.

The meeting also discussed conditions in the occupied Palestinian areas and Arab-Palestinian relations. The officer in charge of unified Palestinian information announced that participants in the meeting agreed to hold a new session of the Central Committee on 10 February in Tunis. The Palestinian news agency WAFA said the Fatah Central Committee discussed preparations for holding a general congress of the Fatah movement, but did not set a date for the congress.

As soon as the Fatah Central Committee meeting ended, brother leader Abu 'Ammar left for Rabat on a working visit to Morocco. The Palestinian news agency WAFA said that after his visit to Morocco brother leader Abu 'Ammar will resume his African tour and will visit a number of African states at the official invitation of the heads of these states. WAFA added: Brother leader Abu 'Ammar will afterward begin a tour of Arab capitals. It is worth mentioning that the brother leader Abu 'Ammar,as we said earlier, visited Senegal, Gambia, and Guinea.

Within the framework of Palestinian efforts in the Arab countries, several Fatah Central Committee members began visits to Arab states. Brother Abu Iyad arrived in San'a' today after a visit to Aden in the last few days. Abu Jihad, member of the Fatah Central Committee and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, arrived in Amman from Tunis after holding talks with a number of Palestinian leaders and he also attended the Fatah Central Committee meeting in Tunis yesterday.

In a press statement, Brother Abu Jihad said the Fatah Central Committee meeting listned to the reports submitted by brother leader Abu 'Ammar on the fourth Islamic summit and its results, as well as the results of his visits to Senegal, Gambia and Guinea, Romania, and Morocco. He noted that the Central Committee decided that Brother Abu 'Ammar should resume his tour of African states as of tomorrow to overcome the results of the expansion of Zionist activity in Africa recently. After this he will visit the Gulf states, beginning with Kuwait.

About the visit of brother leader Abu 'Ammar to Jordan, Brother Abu Jihad said the date was fixed in light of the consultations to take place in the middle of February. He noted that the visit might be preceded by meetings between the Jordanian and Palestinian sides.

Finally, Brother Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, described U.S. President Ronald Reagan's political plan for peace in the Middle East area as a denial of the Palestinian right to self-determination. In a statement to the London monthly *THE MIDDLE EAST*, which will be published Wednesday, Brother Khalid al-Hasan expressed hope that U.S. policy will not continue as it is now with regard to the Palestinian issue. He said that there is nothing that cannot be changed.

On Palestinian-Jordanian relations, Brother Abu as-Sa'id, affirmed that coordiantion between Jordan and the PLO is in the interest of the two sides. He noted that all are in the same boat and he expressed hope that Palestinian-Syrian relations and also Syrian-Jordanian relations will return to normal.

Fatah CC Meetings End

JN311658 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] In the presence of Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar, the Fatah Central Committee has ended the meetings which began in Tunis 2 days ago. The committee members discussed the grave situation resulting from the Zionist aggression against the Islamic and Christian holy places in the occupied homeland. They also

discussed the Palestinian popular move opposing the occupation forces and their designs.

'Arafat Meets Morocco Leader in Rabat
JN311656 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar has met with Morocco's King Hassan II. Our correspondent said that the two sides discussed the results of the Islamic delegation's visit to Egypt and the recent developments on all levels in the Palestine question. They also reviewed the recent grave developments resulting from the continued Zionist aggression against the Islamic and Christian holy places in occupied Jerusalem. Brother Abu 'Ammar also met with Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure at his place of residence in Rabat. They discussed the results of Sekou Toure's talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

Details of King Hassan Meeting
LD311632 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, 31 Jan (MAP) — King Hassan II this afternoon received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the royal palace in Rabat. The audience took place in the presence of Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed; Minister of State Mohamed Boucetta; Interior Minister Driss Basri; PLO Executive Committee member Jamal as-Surani; and Abu Marwan, director of the PLO office in Rabat.

'Arafat To Receive ICO Briefing
LD311359 RABAT MAP in English 1209 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, Jan 31 (MAP) — Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Rabat on Monday evening. According to the Palestinian news agency "WAFA", Mr 'Arafat, in his capacity as vice-chairman of the fourth Islamic summit, will get informed about the outcome of the mission of the delegation assigned by the recently concluded fourth Islamic summit to discuss with President Husni Mubarak and other Egyptian officials the reinstatement of Egypt's membership in the Islamic Conference Organization.

The Islamic commission, headed by Guinea's El-Hadj Ahmed Sekou Toure, and including the foreign affair ministers of Iraq Tariq 'Aziz and of Pakistan Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan as well as the ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti, returned to Rabat on Monday evening at the end of its mission in Cairo. The commission was immediately received by King Hassan II, chairman of the fourth Islamic summit, to whom it reported the results of its discussions with Egyptian leaders.

After his visit to Morocco, the Palestinian leader will carry on his tour in some African countries, and will afterwards tour several Arab capitals, "WAFA" added. Mr 'Arafat had already visited Senegal, Gambia, and Guinea.

Saudi King Arrives in Rabat
LD312133 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2102 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, 31 Jan (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz arrived in Rabat this evening and was met on arrival by His Majesty King Hassan II, Moroccan Crown Prince Mohamed, PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Moroccan Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani, and by the Kingdom's ambassador to Morocco, 'Ali al-Qabbani. A meeting was held between King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Majesty King Hassan II.

'Arafat Meets Iraqi Foreign Minister
JN311858 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar received Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz at his place of residence in Rabat this morning. They discussed the results of the Islamic delegation's visit to Cairo. Abu 'Ammar also received 'Abd al-Hadi Abu Talib, director general of the Islamic Organization for Sciences, Culture, and Education. They discussed the organization's cultural activities in the Islamic world and the difficulties facing the organization in this field. The two sides also reviewed Arab and Islamic affairs in light of the successful Islamic summit held recently in Casablanca.

Fatah's Al-Wazir on Jordan Visit, Future Plans
PM311752 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Jan 84 pp 1,2

[Report on telephone interview with Khalil al-Wazir, Fatah Central Committee member and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution's Forces — date not given]

[Excerpts] London — In a comprehensive interview with *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, Deputy Commander in Chief of the Palestinian Revolution's Forces Khalil al-Wazir — Abu Jihad — said that his talks with King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials were "very positive." He added that Yasir 'Arafat will visit Jordan in the middle of February.

Abu Jihad emphasized that all the attempts to set up an alternative organization to the PLO have failed and that preparations are under way for an ordinary session of the PNC, to be held in 3 months. He said that Fatah's fifth congress would be held before then.

Abu Jihad began his telephone interview from his headquarters in Tunis with *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* in London by revealing that Fatah's Central Committee was scheduled to hold an important meeting in Tunis within hours, as soon as 'Arafat returned from his African tour. He said the committee would discuss Palestinian and Arab developments, the general situation in the wake of the Islamic summit conference, and the results of the Palestinian delegation's talks in Jordan.

In reply to a question about the results of his talks in Jordan, he said: "They were good and were based on common grounds and

common beliefs stemming from the need for joint efforts to develop bilateral relations and from respect for the PNC resolutions and the historical relations between the two fraternal peoples."

On the PLO's attitude toward the recent Jordanian steps to restore parliamentary life, Abu Jihad said: We have already said that we accept the explanations given by King Husayn, the prime minister, and other officials, namely that:

1. This is a Jordanian domestic issue.

2. The move is related to the nature of parliamentary life in Jordan.

3. It does not in any way undermine the PLO's rights as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Abu Jihad stressed that Fatah intends to draw up its future plans on the basis of clarity and frankness in the best interests of the Palestinian people and their rights. He said that during the Revolutionary Council's recent session — which is to be followed by a Central Committee meeting — it was decided:

1. To convene the fifth congress of the movement in view of the recent events, including the Lebanese war and what followed in Al-Biqa' and the north, as well as the Tripoli battle and other battles. All these developments call for a decisive pause to see what lessons can be learned and what conclusions can be drawn and to chart our future moves, agree on a clear political line, and deal with all national issues in a clear patriotic manner with emphasis on priorities, especially the Palestinian armed struggle and the need to escalate it, as well as progress at all organizational, informational, and political levels.

2. To deal with the effects of the wound resulting from the attitudes of Syria and Libya, which used their tools in the Palestinian arena in an attempt to harm the unity of Fatah, the PLO, and their institutions. It was also decided to answer the dissension with more stress on independent national decisions and with efforts to strengthen the organizational structure of Fatah and its institutions and to build up the PLO institutions on solid foundations.

3. To strengthen the Palestinian revolution's military course by rebuilding its military power and by escalating the struggle in the occupied territories by all revolutionary means.

4.To concentrate on the organizational aspect of the Palestinian institutions at all levels wherever our people happen to be.

In reply to a question about the dissidents and the possibility of their reinstatement, Abu Jihad said that final decisions have already been issued dismissing them. He added that there is no place for these people in the Palestinian struggle at any stage.

Referring to recent attempts to set up an alternative leadership to the PLO, Abu Jihad said that these attempts were stillborn because our people everywhere know their real leadership, and that includes our people in the occupied territory, who have always faithfully and strongly supported the PLO and its leadership and rejected trusteeship and interference in our affairs, as well as our people in other areas, who have firmly rallied around the leadership and rejected all pressure exerted to influence their stand.

He added that all the pressures and money spent in an attempt to convene a conference or expanded meetings of Palestinian personalities, or of pressure tools, have been to no avail. The attempts to form a new leadership or hold a conference in Aden, he said, have failed miserably and any new attempt will also fail, no matter how hard they try, because our people know what would result from such a trusteeship meeting.

Asked about the efforts to settle the differences with the Popular Front [PFLP] and the Democratic Front [DFLP], Abu Jihad said that "contacts are continuing between us and all the sides which have not used arms against our people and those who have affirmed concern for the independence of Palestinian decisions. Contacts are under way. Brother Salah Khalaf — Abu Iyad — is also holding meetings with the DFLP in Aden." Abu Jihad in conclusion confirmed that the question of 'Arafat's visit to Egypt has been resolved.

Al-Wazir: 'Arafat To Visit Jordan Mid-February

JN311717 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad , deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Amman after participating in the Fatah Central Committee meetings that ended yesterday. In a press statement he made to the Jordanian paper *AD-DUSTUR*, Brother Abu Jihad said that Abu 'Ammar's African tour aimed at containing the results of the expanding Zionist activities in Africa. He added: The results of brother leader Abu 'Ammar's African tour were discussed during the Fatah Central Committee meetings.

On his recent talks with King Husayn and Ahmad 'Ubaydat, Abu Jihad calrified that the results of these talks were also discussed during the Fatah Central Committee meetings. He announced that brother leader Abu 'Ammar will visit Jordan in the middle of February. Abu Jihad explained that the Fatah Central Committee also discussed the Palestinian, Arab, and international developments surrounding the Palestinian struggle. The committee members also reviewed the continued Syrian-Libyan plotting, as well as the attempts of the agent tools to undermine the national unity of our people and to harm the legitimate Palestinian institutions.

Algeria To Initiate Fatah Reconciliation

GF311350 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 30 Jan 84 p 9

[Excerpt] Informed sources in Cairo have affirmed to *AL-WATAN* that a high-level Palestinian delegation will accompany Yasir 'Arafat during his second visit to Egypt. The delegation will include Faruq al-Qaddumi, Khalid al-Hasan, Hyil 'Abd al-Hamid, Jamal as-Surani, and Rafiq an-Natshah. The sources said Yasir 'Arafat has not yet fixed a date for his visit, which is expected to take place within a matter of weeks.

The sources said if the convocation of the Palestine National Council [PNC] becomes impossible, a popular conference of 5,000-10,000 people will probably be held in Jordan to elect one deputy for every 10 persons to form a new PNC.

AL-WATAN has also learned that efforts are being made for a reconciliation with the Fatah opposition and that Algeria is expected to make new initiatives in this respect. There are two inclinations within the PLO on the timing of this reconciliation: One belief is that it should be made before the convocation of the PNC so that PNC members will have a definite conception of the developments in Egyptian-Palestinian relations and their results, and the second inclination is that it should be postponed after the PNC meeting so that the "Palestinian house" can be put in order. It is worth mentioning that 'Arafat has received an invitation to visit Cairo in March to attend the AAPSO conference there.

Struggle Front Issues Statement on U.S. Policy

JN301857 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus — The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front has warned against the U.S. moves in the region, and has said that U.S. threats will not remove the U.S. Administration from its impasse. This came in a statement the front issued today in which it asserted that the presence of U.S. forces in Lebanon will turn Lebanon into an arena of hot confrontation, and will give U.S. policy a new adventure the consequences of which will be unpredictable. The statement notes that U.S. wagering on the Jordanian-Egyptian-'Arafatist axis will create new crises and dilemmas for the United States. The statement adds that these conspiratorial moves will place the region at the thresholdof a new conflagration, and will turn it into a source of tension because of the Reagan administration's conspiratorial policy.

KUNA Reports on Fatah Official's U.S. Visit

LD311153 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0759 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Washington 31 Jan (KUNA) — It has been learned here that Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee and adviser to PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat, is presently on a visit to the American capital. It has been mentioned that Al-Hasan, one of the persons closest to 'Arafat, was granted an entry visa by the U.S. State Department to pay a visit to the United States and to tour extensively in it.

American and Palestinian officials here, in statements to KUNA, have insisted that the senior Palestinian official "will not hold direct or indirect meetings with officials of the U.S. State Department or the White House or members of Congress." The representative of the liberation organization here, officially known as director of the Information Bureau of the organization in the American capital, Hasan 'Abd ar-Rahman, has stated that the purpose of the al-Hasan visit is only "to meet with the Palestinians from all walks of life in order to acquaint them with the latest developments on the Palestinian arena and with forthcoming events."

'Abd ar-rahman informed this agency that "as far as I know no plans have been made for a meeting with any American official; moreover, no such planning is underway at present." He added that the only meetings arranged for al-Hasan are with the Palestinian community in the United States, with academicians, journalists, businessmen and the like. He said that the Palestinian official, after visiting Washington, will tour major American cities, including Houston, Chicago, Detroit, Michigan, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York.

Cyprus PLO Office Warns of 'Serious' Incident

NC010811 Nicosia O AGON in Greek 1 Feb 84 P 10

[Text] The PLO office in Athens informed the PLO office in Nicosia that it had information that something serious was going to happen in Cyprus yesterday, without giving any further details. The Cypriot police, who were informed of the fact, requested further information from the PLO office. After contacting the Athens office, the PLO Nicosia office could not provide specific details.

KUWAIT

British Defense Secretary Heseltine Visits

LD311757 Kuwait KUNA in English 1636 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 31 (KUNA) — British Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine arrived here late Tuesday from Dahran for talks with officials here on defense issues following a short visit to Saudi Arabia.

In an arrival statement, Heseltine said he is "looking for helpful and constructive talks during" his visit, but declined to give any more details. Asked if he discussed any arms sales to Saudi Arabia, Heseltine said he has not offered any sales, but stated that "if they wish to come to Britain we will do our best to satisfy them."

Sources in London had earlier said that defense sales might come up during his visit to the region, and that he will bring Saudi Arabia and Kuwait up to date on efforts to replace the multinational force in Beirut with any other alternative unit.

The sources also noted that the Gulf region is a major area for British arms sales, and that Kuwait agreed to buy 12 British Aerospace Hawk trainer aircraft late last year.

The British Defense Ministry has described the visit as one of "familiarization" by a new minister, who was appointed to his office last June.

Cabinet Reviews Talks With Saudis on Neutral Zone

GF300630 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] During its meeting yesterday, the Kuwaiti cabinet discussed the results of the visit of 'Abd al-'Aziz al-'Utaybi, the Kuwaiti cabinet secretary, to Saudi Arabia, during which he conveyed a message to Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the acting king. The Kuwaiti cabinet also discussed the meetings 'Abd al-'Aziz al-'Utaybi held with Saudi officials on the steps to implement the At-Ta'if agreement between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait on the property of Saudis and Kuwaitis in the neutral zone.

Kuwait reported that during its meeting on 29 January, the Kuwaiti cabinet discussed a report on the political and security situation in the Arab region.

PDRY

Bulgarian Official Arrives in Aden 31 Jan

GF010606 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Georgi Yordanov, candidate member of the Politburo, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the cultural committee in the Bulgarian People's Republic, arrived in Aden this evening on a short working visit, during which he will discuss with brother officials the relations which link our country with Bulgaria.

In a statement to ANA, he expressed pleasure over his visit to the PDRY. He said that he is carrying the greetings and good wishes of Comrade Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of Bulgarian Communist Party, to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and to the leaders of the Yemeni party and the Yemeni people. He added that he will hold talks with brother officials on developing the struggle relations which link the two countries and parties in various political, economic, and cultural fields.

He was received at the airport by Brother 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razzaq Ba Dhib, member of the YSP Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and chairman of State Information Committee; Rashid Muhammad Thabit, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of culture and tourism; officials; the Bulgarian ambassador to Aden; and ambassadors of the socialist countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

UK Secretary Concludes Talks, Leaves for Kuwait

Prince Sultan Reviews Talks

LD311418 Riyadh SPA in English 1246 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 31, SPA — Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan said his talks with visiting British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine dealt with a comprehensive evaluation of Anglo-Saudi relations in the framework of existing cooperation in military affairs.

Speaking to reporters here today before Heseltine left Riyadh for Jubayl to tour the Kingdom's industrial city, Prince Sultan described Anglo-Saudi relations as "excellent." "The current cooperation in the training field between King Faisal Air College and the technical institute of aircraft maintenance is good. Moreover, Britain has offered to sell the Kingdom sophisticated weapons. Such an offer will be studied by the concerned Saudi bodies to decide whether it could cope with the Kingdom's development plans for its armed forces," he said.

Replying to a question on the kinds of weapons the Kingdom wants to buy from Britain, Prince Sultan said he could not give such details at the moment, adding that Britain had offered all the kinds of weapons which it owns, and that it was up to the Kingdom to make a choice on what sort of arms it needs. He expressed satisfaction with the outcome of Heseltine's visit and described it as "successful and excellent."

On the possibility of setting up Saudi military industries, he said the GCC defence ministers and chiefs of staff had called the formation of the GCC military industries and delegated the matter to be studied by military and civilian experts. [sentence as received] "The issue of these studies in this connection will be settled during the forthcoming GCC defence ministers conference," he added.

Referring to the Kingdom's recent arms deal with France, Prince Sultan said it was for air defence.

Replying to a question on setting up Saudi defence industries in the framework of the deal, he said France had no objection and that this issue had not been discussed till now.

Visitor Departs for Kuwait

LD311445 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1410 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Ad-Dhahran, 31 Jan (SPA) — British Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine this afternoon left Ad-Dhahran for Kuwait after a 3-day visit to the Kingdom.

Italian Trade Minister Arrives for Talks

LD311401 Riyadh SPA in English 1214 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 31, SPA — Italian Foreign Trade Minister Nicola Capria arrived here today on a four-day visit to Saudi Arabia. Capria will hold talks with Saudi Commerce Minister Dr Sulayman as-Sulayyim on bolstering trade cooperation between the two countries.

During his stay in the Kingdom, the Italian minister will meet with the Saudi ministers of finance and national economy, and industry and electricity — Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and 'Abd al-'Aziz az-Zamil. He will also hold talks with Saudi businessmen in the chambers of commerce in Riyadh and Jidda.

Italy is the fourth biggest partner of Saudi Arabia,and strong trade relations exist between the two countries. More than 5,000 Italian companies have commercial links with the Kingdom, while 120 others are doing business, and nearly 7,000 Italians are working in Saudi projects.

AL-JAZIRAH Defends Purchase of Modern Weapons

GF310638 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 31 Jan 84

[From press review]

[Excerpt] The newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* discussed the Kingdom's purchase of what it wants in modern weapons in order to enhance the capabilities of our armed forces.

The paper said: The Kingdom's purchase of what it wants in terms of modern and sophisticated weapons has no limit. Its will to do so is not subject to any foreign influence, whether it be Israeli, German, American, British, or any other source. Its will is efficient and free. It is the will to act freely in purchasing weapons and paying for them at the agreed price. This will is reflected in the spending of huge sums of money to purchase weapons from any country which has advanced military technology and manufactures sophisticated weapons which the Kingdom desires in accordance with certain specifications.

The Kingdom has business dealings with France, which currently manufactures the most sophisticated surface-to-air missile, to equip the Kingdom's defense system with this missile. The missile has a range of 30,000-70,000 feet, and will protect Saudi land and airspace. It is called the Falcon [Shahin], and the Saudi Armed Forces will be the first in the world to possess this weapon.

When the Kingdom decides to obtain various modern and sophisticated weapons from any source, it does so in accordance with its legitimate right to counter Israeli aggression. The Kingdom also wants to contain Israel. The Kingdom is building an offensive and defensive military force equipped will all types of modern and sophisticated weapons.

Commentary Scores Israeli 'Attacks' Against Arabs

LD312342 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Samir Habib Bakhsh commentary]

[Text] Israeli occupation authorities have announced once more the discovery of another attempt to blow up the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, and said a Jewish extremist organization has claimed responsibility for this attempt. An enemy spokesman had admitted responsibility for the incident and said that the bombs found near one of the gates of the old city of Jerusalem are of the kind used by the Israeli army.

What is the aim behind this announcement by Israel and what are its dimensions? The truth is that Israel's purpose behind this announcement is to achieve two aims: the first is to mislead world public opinion, which had condemned the attempted attack on the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and cause it to shirk its responsibility toward the recent attack. The second aim is to pave the way for a new attempt by Israel to blow up the blessed Al-Aqsa mosque within the design of the Zionist plan aimed at erasing the Islamic character of the city of Jerusalem and subsequently Judaizing it.

These Israeli plans are not new, but started in 1967 and perhaps even before that when the occupation authorities began to carry out excavation work around the walls of the Al-Aqsa Mosque under the pretext of searching for Solomon's Temple, to rebuild it in place of the blessed mosque. Moreover, on 21 August 1969, the enemy tried burning the Al-Aqsa Mosque which remained standing high as evidence to the world of the enemy's practices against Islamic holy places in occupied Palestine. Furthermore, the enemy had opened fire on worshippers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

In the face of Islamic and world condemnation and protest, the enemy tried to shirk responsibility for that incident and at the time fabricated lies to escape responsibility for the perpetration of that crime. Today come the new attempts of the enemy against the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the enemy tries once again to shirk its responsibility for these crimes, claiming that a terrorist organization calling itself Terror Against Terror was behind these attempts, and that it was this organization which had recently attacked places of worship in occupied Palestine. Thus, the enemy adds further lies to its previous ones, while the truth is known to both the Islamic world and the international community.

But what is important at this stage, when aggressive Israeli acts have escalated in the entire region, is the fact that there should be a joint and united Arab action on all levels to support the steadfast Arab people in the occupied Arab territories, the people who are courageously facing the expansionist Zionist plans, and to restore the usurped Arab rights, including the Islamic holy places in occupied Palestine. In other words, there should be an effective Arab move on all levels so as to give an impetus to the just, lasting and comprehensive peace process in the region which is represented in the unified Arab peace plan endorsed by the Fes summit. This plan is basically derived from the plan of His Majesty King Fahd for peace in the Middle East, and insures the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people and the establishment of their independent state,on their national soil, under the leadership of their sole and legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization. Moreover, it ensures the preservation of Islamic holy places in occupied Palestine.

Finally, we must point to the importance of the fact that the international community should work for contributing to the achievement of peace in this region, which has suffered for a long time from Israeli attacks.

UAE

Moroccan Commerce Minister Continues Visit

Heir Apparent Receives Visitor

GF301905 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1838 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 30 Jan (WAKH) — Lieutenant General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces, met here today with Azzedine Guessous, Moroccan minister of commerce, industry, and tourism, and discussed with him issues of common interest, the current Arab situation, and relations between the two countries.

Following the meeting, Guessous said Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah is anxious to strengthen scope of cooperation between the two countries for the general good of the two countries.

Economic Agreement Signed

GF311216 Doha QNA in Arabic 100 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 31 Jan (QNA) — An economic agreement on trade exchange was today signed between the UAE and Morocco. The agreement was signed by Sayf al-Jarwan, UAE economy and trade minister, and Azzedine Guessous, Moroccan minister of commerce, industry, and tourism.

The agreement will promote the transfer of capital between the two countries in accordance with the rules of the unified Arab agreement on capital investment. The agreement also encourages trade and technical cooperation between institutions, goverment bodies, and private companies, in addition to exchanging experts and technicians.

In accordance with the agreement, the two sides will pave the way for citizens of the two countries to attain training in the economic and technical fields, in addition to coordinating joint efforts in the fields of research, economics, and technical studies.

YAR

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Arrives in San'a'

GF311856 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, and Abu al-Mu'tasim, head of the central operations room of the Palestinian revolution, arrived in San'a' today on a visit to the republic which will last for several days.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Brother Abu Iyad said that his visit to our country is to discuss developments in the Palestinian situation after the first departure from Beirut and the second departure from Tripoli. He expressed his gratitude to the Yemeni Government and people for supporting the Palestinian cause on various levels.

Abu Iyad and Abu al-Mu'tasim were received at the airport by Brother Ahmad ash-Shijni, minister of state for cabinet affairs and member of the Standing Committee; Hikmat Zayd, PLO representative in San'a'; Lieutenant Colonel Abu Humayd, general commander of the Palestinian Sabra camp; and a representative from the protocol department at the Foreign Ministry.

Prime Minister Receives Khalaf

GF312022 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the Standing Committee, received this evening Brother Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, who briefed him on the latest developments in the Palestinian arena.

They also reviewed the relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions and discussed developments in the Arab arena, particularly the Palestinian cause.

KUNA: Mubarak May Visit Morocco in February

LD311452 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, 31 Jan (KUNA) — Arab diplomatic sources have told KUNA that Morocco will be the first Arab country that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will visit following the Islamic summit conference's recent decision to invite Egypt to resume its ICOmembership. These sources told KUNA that Mubarak's visit to Morocco will take place next month.

The sources did not discount the likelihood of President Mubarak coming to Morocco at the conclusion of his tour of several African countries which starts today.

President Mubarak received the Islamic summit delegation yesterday.

ROSE AL-YUSUF on Mubarak's African Tour

PM311513 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 30 Jan 84 pp 9, 10

['Aydah al-'Azab Musa article: "Why Is Mubarak in Africa?"]

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak this week will tour Africa during which he will visit a number of countries — Kenya, Tanzania, Zaire, Somalia, and Sudan.

This is Mubarak's first visit to sub-Saharan countries since assuming the presidency. He had previously visited Kenya when vice president as head of the Egyptian delegation to the 18th OAU summit. He also visited Addis Ababa as head of the Egyptian delegation to the extraordinary OAU session to discuss the problem of Angola.

Therefore, African problems and issues are not new to the President nor far from his mind. However, what is new is that those problems and issues have multiplied and become so complicated that the continent's heads of states must necessarily be alerted to ensure that they shoulder their responsibilities toward alleviating them. The Egyptian leadership in the sixties played a particularly prominent role in the movement for the liberation of the continent, and together with other nationalist leaderships, was able to keep the continent out of the arena of superpower conflict during the most critical periods experienced by the continent following the wave of independence.

Egypt's return to the policy of nonalignment should necessarily mean that it is returning to the African circle and to the major role it played previously. It was thanks to the policy of nonalignment that the African countries were protected from the dangers of polarization when they were taking their initial steps toward independence.

When the Nonaligned Movement weakened or, more precisely, when its member states became bogged down with their own problems, and lost their sense of affiliation to this large bloc and their ability to adhere to the principles of nonalignment, Africa became ensnared in the international conflict and even became the arena in which it was played out. The current wars in the Horn of Africa and in Zaire, Chad, and Central Africa are not unrelated to the superpower conflict. It can be said that Africa has once again become the field for both cold and hot wars.

The president's visit was probably undertaken to resume what was broken off, and thus mean the restoration of Egyptian-African relations to their rightful course. The African countries, for their part, have taken similar steps toward Egypt. They supported Egypt's candidacy for Security Council membership in succession to Zaire. This indicates the African states' trust in the role Egypt should play. Heavier burdens and greater responsibilities are imposed upon Egypt as a result of it occupying this seat. It will be called upon to adopt clear and positive stands regarding the continent's questions and escalating problems.

Another responsibility Egyptian diplomacy will be shouldering in Africa will be to redouble its efforts to counter Israel's activity there. Israel has been isolated for 10 years — since the African states severed their relations with it following the 1973 war — and is now concentrating its efforts on restoring those relations. It has already restored relations with three countries — Zaire, Liberia, and the Central African Republic. The Ivory Coast and Gabon were expected to follow suit, but the Arab countries' collective efforts, their firm stand and threat to sever relations with and cut off aid to any country restoring relations with Israel prevented those countries from taking that step. As a result, the talks held in Geneva in August between Israel's old friend, Ivory Coast President Houphouet-Boigny and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir were stopped. At that time Houphouet-Boigny was negotiating on behalf of his and several neighboring countries.

The failure of those talks and their suspension does not mean that Israel has given up on Africa or that its efforts in this regard have come to an end. Rather, this is a "lying low" period for Israeli diplomacy. It is a period when it is satisfied with increasing activities in the economic and technical fields.

Egypt is called on to play a role to counter the Israeli activity. It is in the Arab and African interest that this activity be restricted, because Israel's activity in the continent is merely a "Trojan horse" of Western colonialist influence. Playing this role would hasten [Egypt's] rapprochement with both the Arab and African states. The African states boycott Israel because it is the racist South African Government's strongest ally. The African states' severance of relations with Israel was not particularly out of solidarity with the Arabs or for the sake of Arab dollars, as is being alleged, but rather was basically a protest at the close ties between Israel and the racist regime in South Africa, and the harmful cooperation between them in the military and nuclear fields.

Reference must also be made to the the Nile Basin Organization. The concept behind the project is to establish an international technical organization that will supervise economic cooperation between the Nile Basin's nine states (Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, and Zaire) through joint projects related to the Nile valley and its tributaries. The Egyptian Foreign Ministry had prepared a detailed memorandum regarding the project and submitted it to the countries concerned during the Nairobi African summit, which President Mubarak attended. It was said that the meeting at that

time between President Mubarak and President Arap Moi dealt with the project, but nothing since has been heard about this organization. In fact, a new project appeared on the horizon the Organization of Five States that held its first meetings in Khartoum at the end of last year. That meeting included Egypt, Sudan, Zaire, Uganda, and Central Africa. What these countries have in common, according to Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali is that they "belong to the Nile valley" (despite the fact that Central Africa does not) and their lives to a large extent depend on the flow of this eternal river.

Despite the fact that the Khartoum meeting did not deal with the question of Nile cooperation, the five-state meeting was interpreted as a substitute for the proposed Nile Basin Organization. It also was interpreted as a political bloc that would lead to Africa's fragmentation and the undermining of the African community at the continental level represented by the OAU.

Whatever the truth may be, the "compass" of such regional gatherings should point in the right direction, which is cooperation between the area's countries for the sake of development and joint construction. A step in this direction that should be noted is last August's signing by Egypt of the charter of the African News Agency "BANA" [as published] with headquarters in Dakar. Twenty-five African states have thus far ratified it. This agency will edit and disseminate truthful news.

There remains one more important issue, which will probably be the center of President Mubarak's discussions with the African leaders; namely, paying attention to economic and development matters not only at the bilateral but also at the continental level. The African leaders' primary preoccupation remains political. The question arises as to when will economic issues be given priority over, or at least put on a par with, political issues?

Naturally, President Mubarak doesn't have to discuss all these matters during his visit because this is not the concern of presidents alone. What is desired of meetings between heads of states is that they be a first step toward understanding to solve the vital African problems and that they seek rapprochement so as to prevent a polarization threatening to divide Africa. So, let the president's visit be a symbol of such interest and of a return to the African circle, which has greatly weakened during the past 10 years.

Military Talks With Yugoslav Official Begin

NC311441 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA) — The first session of military talks between Yugoslavia and Egypt opened this morning at the Armed Forces' general headquarters. Defense Minister Admiral Branko Mamula represented the Yugoslav side, while Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, represented the Egyptian side. The talks were attended by Jamal as-Sayyid Ibrahim, minister of state for war production, and Lazar Zivulj, Yugoslav ambassador to Cairo.

Communique No 1,358 Reports 30-31 Jan Actions

JN311737 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Communique No 1,358 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 31 January 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our capable Armed Forces are continuing their land, sea, and air operations against the Iranian forces of aggression. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Today our naval forces and their capable air units attacked a number of enemy naval targets after discovering them in the Khowr-e Musa area northeast of the Arab Gulf. Our forces carried out a surprise attack, dealing strong blows to enemy targets. Between 1150 and 1255 today, our forces destroyed five enemy naval targets. The other enemy targets fled, leaving the five destroyed targets behind to sink into the sea in flames.

In a desperate attempt, the enemy sent a number of its frustrated fighter planes to the area where the five targets were destroyed. Our valiant Air Force planes clashed with them in dogfights. Our planes pursued one of the hostile Phantom planes and used direct and accurate hits to shoot it down at 1313. Our daring pilots and forward observation posts saw the plane falling in flames and plunging into the Gulf waters. All of our naval units and planes returned safely and triumphantly to their bases after successfully and accurately carrying out their missions.

2. One of our combat patrol units carried out successful operations against enemy positions opposite our units' position in the central sector of the front. One enemy soldier was captured and another was killed. Our forces destroyed one infantry position, two observation posts, and one medium-size machine gun in another area of the same sector.

3. Our forward units used artillery to pound a number of hostile targets opposite their positions in the area east of Basra. Our units scored direct, effective hits and destroyed one infantry position. Those manning the infantry position were either killed or wounded.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 January 1984

Spokesman on 31 Jan Raid

JN311436 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1400 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. A number of hostile targets were discovered in the Khowr-e Musa area northeast of the Arab Gulf this morning. Our daring naval forces and capable air units confronted them. As a result of an impeccable coordinated plan, our forces in surprise attacks against the enemy targets dealt them continuous, strong blows.

Between 1150 and 1255 today, our forces destroyed five enemy naval targets. The rest of the enemy targets fled the area in an attempt to escape our naval and air forces' firepower, leaving behind the destroyed targets sinking in flames.

As a result of its immense naval losses, the enemy sent a number of its frustrated fighter planes to the battle area at 1313 today. Iraqi planes confronted and clashed with the enemy planes in dogfights. Our planes pursued one of the hostile Phantom planes and shot it down with direct and accurate hits. The plane was seen falling into the sea in flames. The other enemy planes fled. All of our naval units and daring aircraft returned to their bases, praise be to God.

Thus, our naval forces and daring pilots have added a new victory to our Armed Forces' victories. They are affirming their ability to continue their triumphant march; to fight and deter the aggressive enemy; to destroy its land, sea, and air forces; and to deal strong blows to the rancorous aggressors. Frustrations and defeats will be the lot of the evil Iranian rulers.

[Dated] 31 January 1984

More 'Naval Targets' Destroyed

JN010958 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Since yesterday our valiant naval force, through its effective organs and means, has been carefully watching a number of enemy naval targets in the Khowr-e Musa area in the northeastern part of the Arab Gulf. Some of these targets were trying to enter Bandar-e Khomeyni and others to leave it. At 0807 and 0940 today, our valiant naval units and bold aircraft launched a strong attack on the enemy naval targets and managed to destroy three of them and forced the rest to disperse and flee in disarray. Our forward observation post heard violent explosions in the area where the naval targets were destroyed.

The enemy was stricken by panic and confusion as a result of the destruction of its naval targets this morning. Consequently, it intensified its air activities in an attempt to rescue what was left of its targets. However, all its attempts were doomed to total failure and disappointment. It left its three destroyed naval vessels gutted by fire.

Thus, the number of enemy naval targets which our heroic naval force and the naval force's capable aircraft destroyed yesterday and this morning amounted to eight. All our naval units and aircraft returned safely and successfully to base.

Only God grants victory.

[Dated] 1 February 1984

UN Representative Protests Iranian Attacks

JN010840 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] United Nations, 1 Feb (INA) — Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations has stressed that the Iranian regime launched several attacks on Iraqi civilian targets during the first 3 weeks of January. As a result of these attacks, some civilians were martyred and a number of border cities and villages destroyed. In a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Iraqi representative said Iranian artillery had indiscriminately shelled civilian targets in the governorate of As-Sulaymaniyah in northern Iraq, killing two children, wounding a number of civilians, and destroying several houses. The Iraqi representative said that the citizes of Basra and Mandali are exposed to almost continuous shelling.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Rabat, ICO Duties

JN311956 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Jan (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned here from Rabat this evening after participating in the work of the ICO committee that visited Egypt to inform them of the ICO decision to restore Egypt's ICO membership.

The committee, which is chaired by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, consists of Pakistani Foreign Minister Yaqub Sahabzada and ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti in addition to Tariq 'Aziz.

Jordanian Trade Minister Confers With Officials

Taha Yasin Ramadan

JN311232 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, this morning received Dr Jawad al-'Anani, Jordanian minister of trade, industry, and tourism. They reviewed bilateral relations and economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. Ramadan and Dr al-'Anani expressed their satisfaction with the cooperation and development of relations between Jordan and Iraq in all fields which have been promoted to the level of ideal relations thanks to the care and directives of leader President Saddam Husayn and His Majesty King Husayn in the interest of the two fraternal peoples and the Arab nation.

Attending the meeting were Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Trade, Oil Ministers

JN311932 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1902 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Jan (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and minister of trade, met here this evening with Dr Jawad al-'Anani, Jordanian minister of trade and industry. During the meeting, which was attended by Minister of Oil Qasim Ahmad Taqi, the two sides reviewed the development of the economic and trade relations between the two countries in the service of the Arab nation.

Assembly Chairman Receives Polish Message

GF311918 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Na'im Haddad, chairman of the National Assembly, has received a written message from the chairman of the Polish national assembly, (?Stanislaw Gucwa), on parliamentary relations and means to develop them in ways that serve the interests of two friendly peoples. The message, which was delivered by the Polish ambassador in Baghdad when he was received by the chairman of the National Assembly today, included an invitation from the Polish national assembly chairman to visit Poland. The invitation was accepted and the date of the visit will be set later.

Briefs

Credentials of New Ambassadors — Baghdad, 28 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received the credentials of the Australian and Vatican ambassadors to Iraq. His excellency the president received the credentials of (Malic Cooper), the Australian ambassador, and the credentials of Archbishop (Luigi Conti), the Vatican ambassador to Iraq. [Excerpt][Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 28 Jan 84 JN]

Irish Ambassador — Baghdad, 30 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn this morning received the credentials of (?Jeremy Craig) as nonresident Irish ambassador to Iraq. [Excerpt][Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 30 Jan 84 JN]

Media Report on King Husayn's Interviews

PETRA on NEWSWEEK Remarks

JN302001 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 30 Jan (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn has said that Israel is planning to move the Palestinians from their camps in the occupied West Bank to the Jordan valley as a first step toward forcing them to cross the river into the East Bank. This fact makes it incumbent on the Palestinians and Jordanians to arrange their affairs. He added that he still believes the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

In an interview with the U.S. magazine *NEWSWEEK*, his majesty said that the Jordanian Constitution stipulates the existence of a blanced and equal relationship between the Jordanians and Palestinians. He said: We can create a concept for future relations based on that balanced relationship. He added: If we want to reach a solution to the Palestinian tragedy, the Palestinians must participate in that solution.

Regarding the continuation of talks with the PLO and its leader Yasir 'Arafat despite what occurred last April, his majesty said: It was not Yasir 'Arafat's fault; the whole matter is related to what the man represents, and I believe that we have passed through certain experiences and have learned from them. Asked if there will be any fear from Syria once the Jordanian-Palestinian talks begin, his majesty said: I do not believe that we fled past threats. I hope matters will not develop that way, but we will be prepared to confront them if that occurs. He added: In the past, we confronted many threats from Israel and Syria.

Asked whether there would be talks among Jordan, Egypt, and the PLO, his majesty said: There are no such plans at present, but there are certainly many contacts among us.

Regarding the establishment of full diplomatic relations between Jordan and Egypt, King Husayn said: Without reaching a comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute, it is very difficult to resume normal diplomatic relations with Egypt, especially with the Israelis' presence in Cairo. However, contacts continue with Egypt, and I have invited President Husni Mubarak to visit Jordan, where he will be more than welcome.

In reply to another question, his majesty said: Jordan supports Iraq because it is in the right. As the whole tragedy resulted from differences over the border, it is obvious that the solution to the problem lies in negotiations. He added: Iraq has always had a positive position on every initiative aimed at holding negotiations, but I believe that Iran harbors other objectives in the region. He added: If Iran seeks, as it seems, to divide the region on a sectarian or factional basis between the Shi'ites and Sunnis in order to destroy Iraq, Iraq will be our frontline.

Asked about current Jordanian-U.S. relations, King Husayn said: They are normal; I am in a constant touch with President Reagan, whom I personally respect despite the fact that some aspects of U.S. policy in the recent past were not successful.

He also said: Many questions are asked as to how to resolve the Lebanese problem and the Arab-Israeli dispute and about the U.S. role in all this. Regarding the Lebanese problem, his majesty said: We understand the concept of withdrawal as unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon by all foreign troops, but the Israelis are still there. There is also a U.S. commitment to freeze all Israeli settlement activities. He added: Washington should very seriously consider the Israeli activities that are being carried out without any deterrence and that might become a very difficult problem for us.

Asked about what is known as the Jordanian rapid deployment force, His Majesty King Husayn affirmed that Jordan has responded throughout its history to calls for assisting and supporting any Arab brother. It is not a question of forming a new force, because the Jordanian Armed Forces are ready to respond to our brothers' calls whether we receive U.S. military aid or not. What concerns us is strengthening our Army and providing it with modern equipment.

Asked whether Jordan will seek Soviet weapons if the United States refrains from providing it with weapons, his majesty said: When there was no other option, we went to the Soviet Union. We work to secure our needs but we do not put it as follows: Do that ... or ... We are concerned about securing our needs from our conventional sources, and we hope we will succeed in that.

In reply to a question about his aspirations, His Majesty King Husayn said: My aspirations are not personal; they are concentrated on my people, of whom I am very proud and whom I have served all my life. These aspirations also focus on the cause to which I have devoted myself in order to enable the coming generations to live in more dignity, peace, and security. He added: If there are any aspirations left for me, they must be focused on my determination to affect the course of events, to direct them to that path. This is what I will do until the last breath of my life.

Radio Cites NBC TV Comments

JN311726 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn has said that if Israel continues to settle in the occupied West Bank, there will be no hope of achieving any progress toward establishing peace in the region. In a statement to the U.S. NBC television network that was broadcast this morning, the king added that what took place in Al-Aqsa Mosque a few days ago makes us believe that Israel is unable to protect the holy shrines.

The king reiterated that all of these matters constitute dangerous obstacles to peace. He said: If this situation continues, I do not know how can we make any progress toward holding any meeting or any dialogue to help all of the parties concerned achieve peace in the region.

The king affirmed that this problem is not only related to the West Bank; the Palestinian people's rights must also be tackled. He said that there are very serious developments in the occupied

territories, including Israel's measures to resettle the Palestinian inhabitants in the Jordan valley. This could be a first step toward evicting them from their land in order to annex the land to Israel.

The king stressed the need to establish a balanced Jordanian-Palestinian relationship that enables both sides to move in the best manner on the Arab and international levels to reach a just and durable peace. He said: We are currently concerned with defining a joint Jordanian-Palestinian stand on the Palestine question — a stand that contributes to achieving a just peace in the region and safeguarding the Palestinian people's rights. He expressed hope that 'Arafat's role will be constructive and one which derives its strength from and expresses the opinions of the Palestinian people as well as their ambitions and aspirations in a realistic way.

The king said that there is a need to reorganize the Arab League and Arab summits in order to enable the majority to draw up policies and act within the framework of the Arab world's higher interests. He added: The majority of Arab leaders share this opinion with me. We must reach results in this regard shortly.

The king called for withdrawing all foreign forces from Lebanon and for supporting the legitimate government in this brother country.

Husayn Visits General Command Headquarters

JN311317 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, visited the Armed Forces General Command Headquarters this afternoon where his majesty met with Staff Lieutenant General Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces. Several issues concerning the Jordanian Armed Forces were discussed and his majesty the supreme commander issued his wise instructions. He was met on arrival at the General Command Headquarters building by the commander in chief, the chief of staff, his aides, and a number of high-ranking officers.

Marwan al-Qasim Returns From Visit to Oman

JN312137 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Court, returned home tonight following a visit to Oman during which he conveyed a message from King Husayn to His Majesty Sultan Qabus. The message dealt with the current state of affairs in the Arab region in general and bilateral relations in particular.

Al-Qasim said that he briefed Sultan Qabus on the recent Jordanian measures to restore parliamentary life to Jordan. He added that King Husayn's message to the sultan came within the framework of continue coordination and cooperation between their majesties to serve both the common interests of the two fraternal peoples and the Arab nation's interests.

Links With Palestinians, Egypt

JN010741 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, returned to Amman last night following a visit to Oman during which he conveyed a message to His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id from His Majesty King Husayn.

In reply to a question about Jordanian-Palestinian relations, Al-Qasim said that these relations are distinguished because the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples confront the same destiny, danger, and threats. He added: Together they should participate in assuming the national and pan-Arab responsibilities.

In reply to a question abou Jordanian-Egyptian relations, Al-Qasim said: These relations are in excellent order. He pointed out that during their meetings in New Delhi at the nonaligned states summit, His Majesty King Husayn invited President Husni Mubarak to visit Jordan. He added that the Egyptian leadership's stand does not differ from the general Arab stand regarding commitment to regaining the occupied Arab territories and guaranteeing the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights.

Al-Jumayyil Warns Against Marines' Withdrawal

NC011311 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Diplomatic efforts are continuing with the presence of the two U.S. diplomats and the other mediators in the area. This means that these efforts should run their course before other solutions are contemplated. Lebanon, which insists on diplomatic solutions, rejects the military option, except as a last resort after all other solutions are exhausted.

This is what President Amin al-Jumayyil stresses in a statement that *THE WASHINGTON POST* published today. The president denies in the report what has been repeated to the effect that he has asked the United States for military support to carry out a military operation. He emphasizes that such an operation would be the last option. On the other hand, he warns against the withdrawal of the U.S. Marines, emphasizing that this would leave Lebanon in a state of chaos or place it under the Soviet Union's domination.

The president believes the U.S. Congress must not discuss the departure of the Marines from Beirut, because their withdrawal would endanger Western interests in the Middle East. Consequently, whoever would replace Al-Jumayyil would not be a new president but a revolution council member under Soviet domination.

Answering those who criticize the Marines' presence in Lebanon, Al-Jumayyil says they will be convinced some day that the interests of Lebanon are also important to the free world.

President al-Jumayyil criticizes foreign, and particularly Syrian interference in Lebanon's affairs, which has led to the obstruction of the Geneva conference and implementation of the security plan, which would permit a disengagement among the Lebanese sides and a cease-fire consolidation. If it were not for such interference, he says, the interests of the various Lebanese sides would have been dealt with in a logical way on the basis of the constitutional reform plan that Lebanese politicians and the Syrian president prepared in 1976.

The president considers Walid Junblatt a prisoner of his own alliance. He also expresses his readiness to meet with the Syrian president and look into certain points of the agreement with Israel.

Liaison Committee Holds Meeting 31 January

NC311246 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Dispatch by radio correspondent Joe Sa'adah from the Presidential Palace — recorded]

[Text] In today's meeting of the Political Committee of the Higher Liaison Body, Dr Wadi' Haddad, presidential adviser on national affairs, dealt with the general political situation and reviewed the continuing efforts to bring about the security plan's implementation despite the obstacles which the government is still attempting to remove.

Dr Haddad maintained that the security plan is a first and important step on the way to stability and could lead to wide-scale security and political relaxation that would help toward progress in the reconciliation process.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr Haddad welcomed the new commander of the French contingent to the Multinational Force, General (Batain), who previously served in Lebanon.

The head of the Operations Room at the Presidential Palace then reviewed the most significant security developments in the various Lebanese areas, focusing on the recent attacks on the Lebanese Army and Multinational Force positions in Beirut's southern suburb and mountain, and the shelling which extended to some residential areas.

The Political Committee of the Higher Liaison Body held its periodic meeting at noon today at the Presidential Palace. Present at the meeting were Dr Haddad; the British ambassador; the charges d'affaires of the U.S., French, and Italian Embassies; Brigadier General Antoin Barakat, coordinator general of the Multinational Force; the commanders of the Multinational Force; and the Lebanese officers team.

Government Source on U.S., USSR Mideast Roles

NC311912 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A government source in Beirut today asserted that Lebanon is not the first Arab state to depend on the United States. Other Arab states have pursued this course, and even the United Nations has resorted to the United States to deal with certain crises, because of its position as a powerful state.

Lebanon turned to the United States during the Israeli invasion to compel an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory after all other regional and international options had failed.

The source emphasized that the government, during the current period, is eager to establish balanced relations with all countries, including the Soviet Union. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan raised that issue yesterday during his meeting with Soviet Ambassador to Beirut Aleksandr Soldatov. During that meeting, Al-Wazzan asked Moscow for help in stopping what is happening in Lebanon and to ensure the necessary withdrawals in view of Moscow's international influence and strong and effective international relations.

Junblatt Receives Message From Soviet Leaders

NC311757 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A Progressive Socialist Party spokesman stated that party leader Walid Junblatt today received a message from the Soviet leadership. The message was handed to him by Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Yukhin. The spokesman added that Junblatt briefed the Soviet ambassador on the results of current contacts on the Lebanese crisis, especially regarding matters related to the security plan.

Source 'Surprised' Over Military Plan Reports

NC311841 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A government source has expressed surprise that some people are again talking about a military plan being prepared for certain areas while the government is intensifying contacts with various local, regional, and international quarters to bring about the success of the security plan. The source added that the government is sparing no effort in this direction.

The source said those spreading such rumors do not understand the nature of the security plan and most likely want to distort its aims. Basically the plan is one which all sides must agree to because it cannot be imposed by force. For the sake of implementing a plan agreeable to all parties concerned, the government has shown flexibility regarding submitted demands, particularly the one regarding the promotion of officers. This proves that the government intends to overcome all difficulties to establish security and authority over all Lebanese territory, and to expedite the process of dialogue among the parties concerned.

Breakaway Republic Declaration Reported Imminent

'Free Lebanon' Area Involved

LD311431 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1407 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Beirut, 31 January (KUNA) — An informed senior source disclosed here today that the proclamation of the "Republic of Free Lebanon" [jumhuriyat lubnan al-hurr], located in the southern coastal strip of Lebanon, will take place within the next 48 hours. The source told KUNA today that open meetings for that purpose have been taking place for 48 hours under Israeli auspices. The proposed republic would encompass an area now under the control of the so-called free Lebanon forces which were led by the recently deceased dissenter Major Sa'd Haddad.

The source, who refused to be identified, added that Clovis Francis shall assume the presidency of the republic which will cover an area of 2,500 square kilometers. He will be assisted by a presidential council comprising a member of each of the well-known southern families: Al-As'ad, Al-'Abdallah, Al-Khalil, and Abu Zahr.

Shawqi 'Abdallah, one of those considered for membership in the presidential council, heads an Israeli-sponsored organization called "The Unified Southern Grouping" [at-tajammu' al-janubi al-muwahhad].'Abdallah has escaped several attempts on his life.

The republic's proposed president, Clovis Francis, comes from Al-Qulay'ah village, the village from which Sa'd Haddad came, and is situated on the Lebanese-Israeli international border.

Linked to Prior Haddad Call

LD311535 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Beirut, 31 Jan (KUNA) — A Lebanese Government source said here today that what has been reported on the proclamation of the republic of free Lebanon in southern Lebanon is the same republic proclaimed in April 1979 by the dissident Major Sa'd Haddad.

The source told KUNA that preparations are now definitely under wayto chose a successor to the recently deceased Maj Haddad. Official quarters declined to comment on the report until it is officially announced.

KUNA has learned that official quarters at the highest levels have requested that the Voice of Hope radio, the organ of the Army of Free Lebanon which Sa'd Haddad formed, be monitored.

Jubb Jannin Offices Seized

LD311614 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Official security sources said here today that the free Lebanon army militia yesterday afternoon seized the official offices in Jubb Jannin, western Al-Biqa', expelling all civilian and military employees. These sources told KUNA that an Israeli officer, Abu Sabri, and a free Lebanon army official, Akram Assaf, had supervised the office takeover, adding that the offices housed all the official service departments of the western Al-Biqa'. This area has been under the occupation of Israeli forces since their 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Observers here link this measure with preparations for the proclamation of the republic of free Lebanon within the next 48 hours.

Information Minister Denies Reports

GF311940 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1925 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Beirut, 31 Jan (WAKH) — Roger Shaykhani, Lebanese minister of information and justice, has denied today's reports on the expected proclamation of the republic of free Lebanon in southern Lebanon within the next few hours.

In a statement to the WAKH correspondent in Beirut, Shaykhani said: "This report is untrue and the Lebanese Government cannot take it seriously." He affirmed that the government's goal is to unify the Lebanese people and homeland under the slogan of democratic freedom as stated in the Constitution of the Lebanese Parliament which he said is the sole legislative and constitutional authority.

Responsible personalities in the Phalange Party and Lebanese Forces have also denied any knowledge om this matter.

Christian Conference Recommends National Dialogue

NC312000 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The Bkirki conference [of Christian community leaders] this evening concluded its meetings. It issued nine recommendations and principles to facilitate the establishment of dialogue between Lebanon's two [Muslim and Christian] communities. The recommendations emphasize that Lebanon is a sovereign, free, and independent homeland which rejects any occupation,

rupture, division, or colonization. Lebanon, which is a confluence of civilizations and religions, is one country with unified territory, people, and institutions. It belongs to all its people. In Lebanon, a majority does not dominate a minority and a minority does not tyrannize a majority; rather, it observes the principles of justice, equality, and equal opportunity.

The recommendations affirm that Lebanon is a founding and active member of the Arab League; builds its cooperation with the Arab League members on the basis that every state is independent, sovereign, and has its unique system and laws. The recommendations call for discussing secularism and abolishing sectarianism in a frank national dialogue. The conference also recommends that Lebanon adhere to its current free economic system, adopt administrative decentralization, and emphasize the right of every displaced Lebanese to return to his original home.

Junblatt Addresses Fighters, Scores Regime

NC010956 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0802 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Address by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt — live or recorded]

[Text] I address myself to all fighters, strugglers, patriots, and supporters in lofty 'Alayh, legendary 'Aytat, noble Ash-Shuwayfat, rebellious 'Aramun, glorious Bshamun, heroic 'Ayn 'Unub, steadfast Al-Ma'rufiyah, and proud Baysur. I address myself to our people in wounded and sacred Ash-Shahhar, our great dear and proud Ash-Shuf, the generous Al-Jund, and our permanent and eternal Upper al-Matn. I address myself to our dear, poor, steadfast, and rejectionist Iqlim al-Kharrub, and to the [Beirut southern] suburb — the suburb of hope for the future and of change and history; the hope of the deprived and the Muslims.

I address myself to sad and occupied Beirut, the surrounded and shackled captive. I address myself to the Beirut of legitimacy — the legitimacy of abduction, assassination, forgery, lies, hypocricy, repression, terrorization; the legitimacy of the occupier and colonialist; the legitimacy of the fleets, plots, capitulation, and dependence.

I address myself to the Sidon of Ma'ruf and Nazih [Sidon leaders], and to the groaning south. I address myself to the Tripoli of dignity and Zgharta of deliverance. I address myself to the honorable officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers in Hammana, who preserved the message of soldiering and protected its honor. I address myself to the relatives of the kidnapped, the thousands of refugees, and the silent Christians who are groaning under the Phalangists' bayonets.

I address myself to the evicted and displaced, and those who became fodder for the ruling family's plans. I address myself to the Al-Biqa' and Wadi at-Tin plain from Ba'labakk to Hasbayya.

We say to all of you that Lebanon's deliverance can only come through a serious political solution that would consolidate the foundations of social, economic, and political change and development — a solution that would melt down the sectarian barriers and distribute wealth in a more just and fairer way. It would finally entrench Lebanon's relationship with its Arab environment and align this relationship culturally and politically to Syria. Thus Lebanon's independence would finally be secured and its stability consequently consolidated.

There is no salvation for Lebanon at the hands of a family, party, or regime that has no values or principles; exploited instincts; carried out massacres; sold themselves out to the foreigners; plundered the country's fate through unprecedented covetous designs; and made the Army a tool for realizing their objectives, plans, and private aspirations after their gangs had been defeated in the mountain. The Army was turned into the army of the father and pawn of the son. This has desecrated the Army's mission in Beirut, the southern suburb, Ash-Shahhar, and Suq al-Gharb. The Army was used in an internal dispute to implement the covetous designs of this spiteful family and petrified plotting party. How many officers, soldiers, and recruits have died young so that the arms dealers could benefit and the shah of B'abda and As-Sadat of Bikfayya could seek revenge.

Therefore, the security plan is a waste of time; the decisive battle is inescapable and a solution in concert with the Phalagists is quite impossible. The arms in our hands are the ornaments of men; the faith in our hearts is the torch of struggle; and the future, my comrades, will inevitably bring victory.

Junblatt Repeats Call for Al-Jumayyil Dismissal

NC010641 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader Walid Junblatt has stated that the factional Army is bringing additional reinforcements to areas facing PSP mountain positions. He wondered whether the factional Army and its collaborators are preparing a wide-scale military operation against the nationalists. He said this is a suspect move, adding that any military action against the mountain and Beirut's southern suburb would destroy the last hope for negotiating over the security plan. Junblatt noted that the security plan is completely dissociated from our basic political theme: The dismissal [iqalat] of Amin al-Jumayyil.

Junblatt Cited on Lebanese Army's Activities

JN311939 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Responding to a question on his stand regarding this afternoon's military escalation and Lebanese Army's attempt at advancing on the Khaldah-'Aramun axis, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt said: We have been cognizant of this plan several times. We know that Amin al-Jumayyil, his Army and militias will attempt to storm the mountain and [Beirut's southern] suburb under the umbrella of talking about the security plan. He added: We are following their concentrations and designs, which will not pass as easily as they think.

Druze Leader Supports Plan on Officers, Dialogue

NC311915 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Amir Faysal Arslan has said that the step taken by the state to settle the question of the officers and soldiers is a positive initiative. He called for a Lebanese conference that would include all parties. He affirmed that the only solution for rescuing Lebanon lies in establishing legitimacy in all areas and disbanding the militias. He expressed the desire to meet with the Phalange Party and Lebanese Forces provided such a meeting would lead to positive results.

During an interview with the BAYRUT NEWS AGENCY [as heard], Amir Faysal Arslan expressed support for any plan that would help restore tranquillity and stability to Lebanon. He considered the step taken by the state to solve the question of the officers and soldiers as an excellent initiative for finding the appropriate solution to the problem. He said: We emphasize that the state is just and the Army belongs to all Lebanese. The soldier with a clean record must be promoted and given his rights. It is impermissible for any citizen, regardless of rank or job, to leave his position and run away. Amir Faysal Arslan added: I support the step taken by the state to reinstate the officers and soldiers to legitimacy. Lebanon cannot live without legitimacy. He expressed the hope that the responsibility for security will soon be given to the Lebanese Army following Lebanon's experience when security fell in the hands of extreme rightist and leftist militias. He also expressed the hope that legitimacy will establish itself throughout Lebanon.

Amir Faysal Arslan called for a conference in which all communities will participate for the sake of Lebanon. He said the only solution for rescuing Lebanon lies in the disbanding of all militias, establishing a just state, and the spreading of the Lebanese Army's authority throughout Lebanon. He said he supports an expanded and decentralized administration, and revealed he has a plan in this regard.

Regarding the U.S. role in Lebanon, Amir Arslan said he harbors great hopes in U.S. policy, adding however that if its policy fails, U.S. credibility in the world will be put to the test and embarrass the moderate states' position.

In conclusion, Amir Arslan said he doesn't object to holding a direct meeting with the Lebanese Forces and Phalange Party if such a conference is a general one and aimed at rescuing Lebanon.

Farrash's Abductors Contact Government, Seek Talks

NC010630 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0613 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The kidnappers of Saudi Consul Husayn al-Farrash contacted officials in Beirut for the first time yesterday. The contact was made through a third party who said the consul was being held within the Beirut perimeter. The go-between emphasized the kidnappers would like to release the consul because of their realization that he is not the diplomat they intended to kidnap. The third party did not ask for a ransom, but did express his desire to meet with officials empowered to hold such negotiations. The lawyers of the Saudi Embassy have been informed of this development.

More Reportage on Security Situation

Voice of Mountain on Clashes

NC311336 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1240 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] From 1100 to 1200 today, the hills of Baysur, Al-Fsaqin, Qabr Shmun, and 'Aramun came under mortar and machine gun fire from the factional army positions in Suq al-Gharb, 'Ayn Ksur, and 'Ayn Drafil. The Beirut-Damascus road came under tank fire from 1200 to 1300.

The Progressive Socialist Party positions in Dahr al-Wahsh, Ra's al-Jabal, and 'Alayh's western quarter also came under mortar and machine gun fire from the factional army positions in Al-Kahhalah, Bsus, Tallat Al-Prince, and Al-Qammatiyah. At 1315 a rocket launcher operated by Phalangist guns in Al-Mushrif fired rockets on the hills of Baysur.

Our correspondent reported a short while ago that the towns of Barja, Siblin, and Darayya in the Al-Kharrub region came under artillery fire at 1345 from 'Ayn al-Hawr, Al-Burjayn, and Ad-Dubbiyah.

Beirut Clashes; Soldiers Killed

NC011228 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1150 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] A security source reported a short while ago that the Army's positions in Suq al-Gharb are coming under concentrated shelling. The clashes in Beirut's southern suburb eased at 1230, and unidentified warplanes overflew the area at approximately 1330.

The situation in the southern suburb and mountain was tense this morning. Clashes erupted between the Army and gunmen in Mar Mikhayil and Ash-Shiyah. These clashes, which eased a short while ago, resulted in the deaths of a lieutenant and sergeant.

The scope of the shelling then expanded to include the Juniyah area, where a shell fell in the sea. At 1200, the clashes expanded as the Army positions in Kayfun came under mortar and RPG fire.

U.S. Aircraft Overfly Beirut, Mountain 31 Jan

NC311731 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Four U.S. warplanes overflew Beirut and the mountain this afternoon, and two U.S. helicopters overflew the south around noon.

Grenade Incident in Sidon Wounds Several

NC011030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] A hand grenade was thrown at an Israeli patrol on Riyad as-Sulh Street in Sidon at 1015 this morning. This was accompanied by heavy shooting from Israeli forces, which rushed to the scene of the incident. There have been several reports regarding the person who threw the grenade. However, an eyewitness said an IDF soldier riding in a truck, which was part of a military convoy passing through the street, threw the grenade. Several civilians were wounded and taken to the hospital.

U.S. Envoy Meets With Foreign Minister

JN311311 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] U.S. Middle East Envoy Donald Rumsfeld arrived in Israel from Damascus this morning. Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. secretary of state, remained in the Syrian capital where he resumed his talks with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam for 2 hours today.

In the meantime, Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], and his aides met with the Italian ambassador to Lebanon. Junblatt told him that he does not object to Italy's participation in a UN force or observers to supervise the mountain cease-fire.

The PSP sources said an important meeting took place in the Soviet Embassy building last night between Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Yukhin and Walid Junblatt, who received a message from the Soviet officials. Nothing has thus far been revealed about the contents of this message.

A short while ago we learned that Walid Junblatt received a delegation of mountain shaykhs and dignitaries in the presence of Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt in order to review the mountain situation.

Now we return to Richard Murphy, who described Rumsfeld's talks with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam yesterday as feasible, talks which achieved some progress, without elaborating. This relative optimism was accompanied by Walid Junblatt's surprise at the sudden departure of Saudi Envoy Rafiq al-Hariri from Damascus to Riyadh yesterday. Junblatt said that this sudden departure is not an encouraging sign, particularly in view of the Lebanese Army reinforcements in southern Beirut. He added: If this is aimed at preparing for an operation against the mountains and Beirut suburbs, it will certainly lead to the loss of any hope of resuming negotiations on the security plan. He said that any political solution hinges on the departure of President Amin al-Jumayyil and his policy.

Saudi Envoy Meets With Junblatt's Aides

JN292102 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 29 Jan 84

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri met today in Damascus for more than 5 hours with Junblatt's assistants Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt. A portion of the meeting was attended by 'Abdallah al-Amin, assistant secretary general of the Lebanon Ba'th Party branch. Progressive Socialist Party sources in Damascus have declined to elaborate on whether specific results have been reached and were content to say that the discussions with the Saudi envoy dealt with all the issues and problems.

AL-BA'TH Views U.S. Middle East Moves

JN311125 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 31 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting in its "Opinion" column under the headline "Syria Will Remain the Real Enemy of Israel and Its agents" *AL-BA'TH* writes: In the light of concentrated American diplomatic moves on the Lebanese issue, observers have noted that similar moves are directed towards the open emergence of the treasonous alliance among Mubarak, Saddam, Husayn and 'Arafat. From this double move several indicators and facts emerge. One fact is that this move coordinates all past and present attempts by the enemies of the Arab nation to differentiate between the various Middle East issues. Many a sly and rancorous voice has tried to separate the Lebanese issue from the Palestinian question, and many say that the invasion of Lebanon has nothing to do with the occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan, and indeed the occupation of all the Palestinian Arab soil. This is how Israel manages to follow a step by step policy to swallow up the land bit by bit first under cover of Camp David, then the agreement of submission, and now the treasonous alliance between 'Arafat's clique and the treasonous regimes.

Therefore the double American diplomatic move means that among other things, the attempts to differentiate between issues are only misleading illusions, especially since our masses are not ignorant of the chain of conspiracies against their rights, dignity and existence. What draws one's attention to the American diplomatic activity is the return to military escalation which was apparent on more than one axis. In Beirut the security situation deteriorated and the Marines supported the Phalangist militia in their indiscriminate shelling of the nationalist forces positions in the suburbs and the mountains, and in areas populated by defenseless inhabitants. In the occupied territories, Israel considers itself in a combat position against Syria. Shamir stressed the importance of nullifying Syrian influence in the Middle Easter arena. In Amman and Washington, the final agreement for the formation of the Jordanian intervention force was made with Israeli blessing. All this happens with assurances from the king and the executioner of Iraq that the doors are open for Mubarak's Egypt. What does all this mean? Undoubtedly it is a plan of military and political pressure, and the target is Syria — the only real enemy of Israel, as Shamir described i, while taking into account his alliance with the client regimes, which are preparing in all haste for a second Camp David.

In any case, let Shamir and his agents in the area know, and let the U.S. Administration know, that Syria will remain the real enemy not only of Israel but of all those who relinquish Arab soil and rights. Syria will continue to hold the final decision and maintain the firm stand in defending the honor of the nation and its dignity and existence.

Australian Foreign Minister Arrives in Damascus

JN311151 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a 2-day official visit to Syria. He was received at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Meets Foreign Minister

JN311911 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and William Hayden, Australian minister of foreign affairs, held a round of talks at the Foreign Ministry this evening. The meeting was attended on the Syrian side by 'Isma an-Na'ib, assistant minister of foreign affairs; and Shahir ad-Duray'i, director of the Asia desk at the Foreign Ministry. The meeting was attended on the Australian side Hayden's delegation and the Australian ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the current political situation in the region. Khaddam received Hayden just before the talks began.

Shamir Denies Intention of Preemptive Saudi Attack

TA010946 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0938 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said a short while ago in the Knesset that Israel has no intention of launching a so-called preemptive war. Shamir made these remarks in reply to a verbal interpellation by MK Mordekhay Gur of the Alignment. MK Gur wondered about the statement made by the director general of the prime minister's office about a preemptive war against Saudi Arabia. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir explained that this statement was made in reply to a hypothetical question by a journalist. Shamir added that during Chancellor Helmut Kohl's visit to Israel, it was noted that West Germany had not yet made a final decision about the arms deal with Saudi Arabia.

Herzog Links Political Attitudes to Terrorism

TA312027 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] President Hayim Herzog this evening attacked leaders of various political camps who condone the use of such expressions as traitors, PLO-supporters, Nazis, and so on and so forth. These expressions, he said, play quite a role in the atmosphere created in Israel and which has led us to the present situation. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that at a memorial ceremony for Emil Grunzweig the president linked his murder to the attempts to carry out acts of sabotage on Temple Mount and nearby Islamic and Christian institutions in Jerusalem. The murder of Emil Grunzweig, the president said, reflects cowardice which has characterized those who indiscriminately throw a hand grenade into a crowd in the dark of night [reference to the murder of Emil Grunzweig a year ago], who plant a hand grenade to harm a nun, who attack the Temple Mount at night, thus planning to bring disaster on the people of Israel.

The president condemned the activities of the TNT [Terror Against Terror] group, saying that we have reached a new low in the criminal attempts to commit atrocities on Temple Mount, acts which would have undermined our political stand in this city, inflamed tempers, and endangered the lives of tens of thousands of Jews in Islamic countries. However, the thing which is most worrisome for me in this matter, the president added, is that these acts are carried out in the name of God, and it is about time that it is made clear that they run in total opposition to the Torah of Israel.

Handgrenades Found in Jerusalem's Old City

TA301020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Three handgrenades have been found beside the Lion's Gate in the east of the Old City of Jerusalem. The grenades were found in a water bottle, in the same way as the three handgrenades found earlier, on Saturday, in the course of the search after the attack against the Temple Mount. The police are investigating.

Shapira Says Elections May Be Held in November

TA010709 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir conferred last night with coalition chairman Avraham Shapira to discuss the state of the coalition. At the end of the meeting, Shapira told our correspondent that the elections to the Knesset may be advanced to November 1984. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports:

[Begin recording] [Golan] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is very encouraged by the signs of an improvement in the economic situation— namely, the optimism prevailing in the stock market, the emerging rise in exports, and the decline in imports. Avraham Shapira told us: The best thing would be to continue until the end of the term. However, he definitely regards as reasonable the possibility of holding elections this year, in November.

[Shapira] If we do not hold through the end of the term, I estimate that elections will at the earliest be held in November 1984.

[Golan] The Agudat Yisra'el faction held a meeting after conferring with the prime minister to discuss two bills Agudat Yisra'el has been waiting for: The Who Is a Jew bill and the Archaeology bill.

[Shapira] The Who Is a Jew bill and the Law of Return are the most sacred things to the Israeli people, and there is no doubt that, God willing, we will pass them on time according to the coalition agreement. We want to raise them when we feel that we are assured of an absolute majority.

[Golan] And if you feel that you do not have such a majority, will you give up?

[Shapira] Why give up?

[Golan] Well, Agudat Yisra'el is not giving up, but it is also not anxiously waiting around the corner. It seems that it will maintain a low profile at present, and that its members still hope to get their share of the coalition agreement without threatening the integrity of the coalition. [End recording]

Poll Shows Majority Favors Early Elections

TA310853 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 31 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] The majority of the public has reached the conclusion that the elections date should be brought forward, and we should not wait for the end of the current government's term in office. This emerges from a nationwide PORI Institute public opinion poll conducted at the request of *HA'ARETZ*.

Of all those questioned, 58.6 percent are now in favor of early elections, compared with 36.2 percent who think the elections date should not be brought forward and the government should be permitted to complete its term in office. The remaining 5.2 percent have no views one way or the other on the issue.

More than 50 percent of the public (53.4 percent) also believe that early elections would lead to an Alignment victory. Only

22.1 percent believe the Likud would win if Knesset elections were to be held now.

The view held by the majority of the public is that the Alignment could deal with the problems now facing the country more successfully than the Likud. The number of people who believe this is more than double those who think the Likud is the most suitable to deal with the country's problems now (31.3 percent compared with 16.1 percent).

At the same time, the poll's editor, PORI director Refa'el Gil, points out that there is a not inconsiderable number (12.6 percent) who believe that neither the Likud nor the Alignment can deal with the country's problems successfully. An additional high number (19 percent) believe that "no party" is capable of dealing with the country's problems, and 20.6 percent "do not know" what party is capable of improving the situation.

The poll covered a representative sample of 1,200 men and women given private interviews throughout the country.

Rosenne, U.S. Congressmen Discuss Marines Pullout
TA010712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Israeli Ambassador in the United States Me'ir Rosenne believes that the U.S. Marines should not be pulled out of Lebanon. Last night, the ambassador met with 20 Jewish congressmen who wanted to discuss the issue with him due to the growing pressure of public opinion on Congress to pull the Marines out. Our correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports from Washington:

[Begin recording] The pullout of the Marines at this stage, the ambassador said, would create anarchy in Lebanon and would decrease the chances for an arrangement there. However, we were not the ones who called in the Marines, and it is not for us to decide. This is a domestic U.S. affair, and the administration and Congress must decide whether to subject Lebanon to Soviet-Syrian rule.

The Jewish Congressmen asked about the prospects of Israeli-Jordanian negotiations. The ambassador replied: The cold peace with Egypt and the statements voiced in Cairo are not encouraging for the continuation of the peace process with another country, like Jordan. [end recording]

Government Protests to U.S. Over Mubarak Remark
TA010530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Israel has lodged a sharp protest with the United states about remarks attributed to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak that the Camp David agreements were dead. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that the U.S. ambassador in Cairo held a meeting with Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali immediately after Israel lodged its secret protest. According to the Americans, the Egyptian minister swore that such remarks had never been made.

Political sources in Jerusalem think that Husni Mubarak is pursuing Egypt's withdrawal from the peace treaty with Israel, and that only the United States has been preventing him from ignoring it completely. It is also believed in Jerusalem that the Egyptian president's weakness is the cause for the weakening of the peace treaty between the two countries.

Arens To Discuss Lebanon Security With Rumsfeld
TA010531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The defense minister will confer with envoy Donald Rumsfeld this morning. Political sources in Jerusalem told our political correspondent that Minister Arens will urge Rumsfeld to exert pressure on the Lebanese president to agree to the security arrangement. Our correspondent has learned that Israel asked the United States to stop its efforts to achieve national reconciliation in Lebanon and to open contacts for reduced security arrangements. Israel proposes that Lebanese Army units deploy along the Al-Awwali River, and on the outskirts of Sidon in the south.

U.S. Congressional Approval for Jordan Force Seen
JN312025 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1543 GMT 31 Jan 84

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] The U.S. Administration will present a proposal to the U.S. Congress this week on establishing a rapid deployment force in Jordan and supplying it with U.S. Stinger missiles. Here is our correspondent's report from Washington on the obstacles that hamper the ratification of this proposal:

At a time when all the facts indicate that Israel has positively responded to the U.S. Administration's request and has agreed not to block the establishment ofa rapid deployment force in Jordan supplied with modern weapons, President Reagan's administration encountered an unexpected problem. This problem emerged when opposition inside the U.S. Congress increased, not only because of friendship with Israel, but also because U.S. Congressmen and members of the House of Representatives believe that this force does not deserve either the heavy expenditures or the political efforts that will be made for it. The U.S. Congressmen are not convinced of Jordan's ability to respond to U.S. aspirations and to intervene if the oil countries' regimes are endangered.

Naturally, there is also Israel's security. The statement King Husayn made during the news conference he held last week, in which he hinted that Jordan will be ready to accept the U.S. proposal if this proposal meets Jordanian conditions, will create difficulties in the U.S. Administration's attempts to obtain Congressional approval for this aid.

The Reagan administration's representatives made great efforts in recent weeks to persuade the members of the U.S. House of Representatives to support both establishing a rapid deployment force in Jordan and supplying it with U.S. Stinger missiles.

Estimations indicate that the U.S. Congress will at last approve the U.S. Administration's proposal, particularly since Israel has agreed not to hamper it.

Israeli-U.S. Talks on Syrian Threat to Jordan

TA291302 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Jan 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from the United States by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] Washington —Experts in Washington believe that Israel and the United States are basing their strategic discussions on four or five contingencies in the Middle East in which the two countries would be called upon to act together in order to prevent a development which would serve Soviet interests.

According to these experts' assessment, one of the more plausible contingencies under consideration is a Syrian threat to Jordan.

The strategic talks are being held and portrayed as coordination against Soviet subversion in the Middle East. The experts believethat at the end of the deliberations the two countries will have reached an understanding concerning U.S. support for Israel against Soviet threats, if such threats follow Israeli actions in the Middle East. The experts believe that the two countries are attempting to reach political coordination in order not to surprise each other with steps (such as the annexation of the Golan Heights) or plans (such as the Reagan plan for solving the Palestinian problem).

The price that Israel would pay for an understanding in the strategic dialogue is that it would be included in the U.S. alignment directed against the Soviet Union, and its ability to take political and military actions would be hampered. Israel's gain would be a tightening of relations with the major superpower, and the economic effects resulting from the stationing in Israel of U.S. Army emergency systems [ma'arakhe herum]. According to this plan, warehouses would be set up in Israel for the U.S. Army. It is not inconceivable that in times of emergency Israel would be able to use this equipment for its own needs. The experts also believe that the strategic dialogue between the two countries is based on plans that have been publicized in the past. Both countries have imposed a blackout on the talks.

Settlements Committee Approves Galilee, Gaza

TA311639 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs today approved the establishment of a communal settlement, 'Azmona Bet, in Gush Qatif in the Gaza Strip. The committee has also approved the establishment of a Nahal presettlement in the Qatif region. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that today the ministers also endorsed the principles for the development of the Galilee next year. This involves expanding the existing observation posts and a controlled addition of settlements. Only Ministers Ne'eman and Tzipori participated in today's committee meeting.

Further on Committee Decisions

TA311807 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1745 GMT 31 Jan 84

["Announcement by the Science and Development Ministry Spokesman" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 31 Jan (ITIM) — Minister Yuval Ne'eman, acting chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, said at the committee's meeting today that despite the economic situation and budget constraints, the settlement momentum throughout Eretz Yisra'el will not be stopped. At the same time, we may have to resort to the old techniques of setting up settlements in pioneering conditions. These remarks were made by Minister Ne'eman at today's meeting of the committee which made a series of decisions including:

A. In the framework of a discussion on developing production means for settlement, the committee heard a survey on the Tourism Ministry's plans for developing tourism projects in new settlements. The committee took note of the momentum for developing tourism on the Golan and in the northern Sea of Galilee area, emphasizing that tourism projects should be seen as an important source of livelihood in new settlements. It was recommended that priority be given to the development of a tourism infrastructure in the southern Jordan Valley and northern Dead Sea areas.

B. A framework for settlement activity in the Galilee for the next 2 years has been approved. This is based on a plan which was jointly submitted by the Housing and Construction Ministry and the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department and involves expanding existing observation posts and the establishment of a number of new settlements. The committee also approved the establishment of two new settlements in the southern Gaza district: Qatif Het and Qatif Tet.

C. In the framework of a discussion on Ramat Qidron and Mizpe Yehuda, the committee discussed ways to promote the momentum for private settlement in Judaea and Samaria.

Referring to Minister Ne'eman's remarks, the head of the Settlement Department, Mr Matityahu Drobles, announced that the department is preparing for the erection of 11 settlements planned for the next fiscal year. In addition, the department will set up eight settlements in the Galilee and the Jordan Valley.

Ben-Porat Resignation From Government Takes Effect

TA311530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The resignation of Mordekhay Ben-Porat from the government has taken effect. At the beginning of the plenary Knesset debate today the prime minister announced the resignation.

Soviet Diplomats Expect Thaw in Relations
TA271830 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 27 Jan 84 p 13

[Article from United States by Amir Oren: "The Russians Are Returning to the Israeli Court"]

[Text] The year of 1985 will see a thawing in Israeli-Soviet relations according to diplomats in the Sovet Embassy in Washington. According to them, Moscow decisionmakers are aware that a short circuit in the diplomatic relations does not benefit the Soviets at all. With a successful combination of political and personal circumstances, the diplomats say, the resumption of relations next year is plausible.

These remarks were made as a sort of substitute for an interview with Soviet Ambassador to the United States Anatoliy Dobrynin. After more than 20 years in the U.S. capital, Dobrynin is not only the most veteran diplomat there but also one of the most experienced and influential foreign observers. He does not normally grant interviews, his aides explained, and mostly does not even deal with the Middle East, "although he meets your ambassador here, Rosenne, for tete-a-tete talks, just as he met with Rosenne's predecessors, so that we have ways of clarifying our position for the benefit of Israel's knowledge."

Instead of Dobrynin, the lower but still sufficiently senior Soviet Embassy levels agreed to present the Soviet outlook regarding various aspects of the Israeli-Arab conflict, through the filter of their Washington observations. On several points the diplomats stressed that their views are voiced "privately" and that anyone interested in the official position can settle for the standard statements. However, the Soviet Union has never been known as the land of private enterprise and it is difficult to believe that a revolution in this direction will begin in the foreign service, of all places.

Brezhnev decided to sever relations with Israel in a moment of anger, the diplomats say, and since June 1967 the relations have been on the brink of resumption a number of times. Their resumption came closest in 1977 on the eve of the reconvening of the Geneva conference. The conference ultimately was not convened , and after As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, Begin competed with him on a demonstration of political proximity to the United States and disinterest in any relations with the Soviet Union. Later, of course, the Lebanese war began. The evacuation of the IDF from Lebanon is now the primary condition for the resumption of relations, according to the diplomats. Such an evacuation, in their opinion, will be carried out soon. "Sharon after all said that it is enough to have 600 soldiers there." A second political condition is that there must be some Israeli progress toward solving the Palestinian problem, not necessarily through an agreement on establishing a Palestinian state. "We will not be more Catholic than the Pope. If 'Arafat is prepared for a confederation with Husayn, this is surely acceptable to us."

The Soviet diplomats believe that such progress is more reasonable if the Alignment rules Israel, but this is not absolutely necessary, just as Moscow does not attach much importance to the nuances involved in the shift of power from Menahem Begin to Yitzhaq Shamir.

According to the diplomats, the person in Moscow who coordinates the handling of the Soviet Middle Eastern policy is more important. The chance for a thawing in Israeli-Soviet relations will grow, the diplomats claim, if Yuriy Andropov is capable of ruling. A Soviet official who was present at the meeting of then KGB head Andropov with a Middle East guest a few years ago says he was impressed by Andropov's knowledge about the regional problems and his intention to move toward "a more realistic view of the situation."

According to this version, the "realism" of Andropov must be juxtaposed to the approach of Boris Ponomarov and others in the CP Central Committee whose sole sources of knowledge are the old-time Soviet collaborators in the Middle East. "When one repeatedly only listens to Nayif Hawatimah, Khalid Bakdash, Walid Junblatt, and 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, without hearing the other side, this must have an impact since these guys know how to talk convincingly and logically."

The military establishment, according to the Soviet diplomats, is adopting a conservative line. It prefers to avoid complications — especially introducing Soviet troops into places where they will be exposed to danger — but cannot maintain restraint when it is humiliated such as with the defeat of the Syrian Air Force and aerial defense system against the IDF in June 1982. "There was talk here about changing the world balance, about the Soviet "paper tiger," and the Army faced the difficult problem of loss of prestige. Therefore the SAM-5's were brought into Syria but they are to be left for the Soviets to operate and not handed over to the Syrians, at least not in the next 3 years, at which point they will already be outdated."

It does not take a morbid sense of suspiciousness when talking with official Soviet representatives to assume that they have direct or ulterior motives in phrasing the remarks that will reach Israeli readers. Praise of Andropov is doubtlessly the result of his current supremacy in Moscow. However, this utilitarian explanation does not take into account the possibility that a new czar may tomorrow rule over the country and the fate of its diplomats and exercise a different policy. This utilitarian explanation also does not explain the diplomats' lukewarm description of their direct superior, the foreign minister. "Gromyko is not personally interested in the Middle East. He dwells on East-West relations, and has even avoided a visit to Kuwait, when such a visit would have sufficed to establish diplomatic relations with some of the Persian Gulf countries."

On the eve of the Gromyko-Shultz meeting in Stockholm, both Reagan and Gromyko talked of the danger of a superpower crisis that could result from the Middle East conflict, especially in Lebanon. (Reagan repeated his concern about this possibility in a letter to congressmen this week.) The Soviet diplomats in Washington chuckle when they are asked whether an understanding was reached concerning this issue in the Shultz-Gromyko meeting. They say that "to the extent that there is a U.S.- Soviet dialogue at all, it does not include the Middle East at present. In this respect, you Israelis can remain calm. In the final analysis, an imposed settlement — albeit a fair one which would be enforced firmly but not rudely — by the superpowers may be inevitable. However, this is only my private opinion and, anyway, conditions for this are not ripe at present."

The Soviet diplomats say that U.S. influence over Israel is larger than that which the Soviet Union exercises over Syria. "At least in theory, the United States can stop its aid and threaten to bring down your economy. The Syrians are not dependent on us; we do not grant but rather sell them weapons — indeed, with Saudi financing — and if we stopped our aid tomorrow, the Americans and the Saudis would be happy to take our place. We have almost no influence over Syria on two issues: Lebanon and the Palestinians," said one of the diplomats who remembers well how during former Prime Minister Kosygin's visit to Damascus, Al-Asad's forces invaded Lebanon right under his nose. "Just as you end every debate with the argument of Israel's security needs, the Syrians claim that Lebanon is vital to its security." The Soviet-Syrian cooperation and friendship agreement does not mention Lebanon, and is based on a uniform format used in similar treaties the Soviet Union has signed with countries that have regional enemies ("we are not interested in getting involved in regional conflicts"). Moreover, the Soviet diplomat remarked sarcastically, Israel is also not mentioned in this treaty, whereas the Soviet Union was mentioned as the common enemy of Israel and the United States in their memorandum of understanding of 1981 and in the Reagan-Shamir talks which took place 2 months ago.

The "private opinion" of one of these Soviet diplomats, which deviates from the formal stand, is that ultimately Lebanon will be partitioned. The veto power every faction in Lebanon reserves for itself over less comprehensive agreements frustrates the Soviets. For example, Junblatt seems to have taken a tougher stand following his visit to Moscow "when the truth is that he came on his own initiative, hugged and embraced us, heard our well-known position, and used the semblance of Soviet support to strengthen his position as the Druze leader." The Soviet Union understands that Israel will continue to influence southern Lebanon even after the IDF withdraws. In 1978 the Soviets voted in favor of sending UNIFIL troops to southern Lebanon and they do not reject the notion of an additional role for the United Nations in Lebanon, "but not to guard the Palestinian refugee camps or to deploy in Beirut where the presence of a foreign force would help one side and cause resentment in others."

The Soviet diplomats resort to "dialectics" to support their assessment that a Soviet-Israeli rapprochement is near. The importance of Middle East oil will decrease since it is increasingly being produced in other zones and alternative sources of fuel may be found. The United States and its allies are not dependent on Arab oil, except for Japan, which also has potential sources in Alaska, China, southern Asia and the Soviet Union. A Soviet diplomat took us by surprise when he said that "the Jewish community in the Soviet Union is certainly a factor which is taken into consideration in the decision-making process."

In the global balance, the Middle East becomes a minor nuisance: A Politburo member who is accustomed to dealing with "whole continents" — with the Sino-Soviet complex — was furious when he found out that he had spent a work-day "on 20 wretched kilometers in the Middle East."

The Soviets posted in Washington hinted that the next move would take place in New York: Renewing the customary meeting between Gromyko and the Israeli foreign minister during the UN General Assembly. This custom has been suspended since the beginning of the war in Lebanon.

One of the Soviets was asked: "Can it be assumed that you will then study Hebrew and be assigned to a senior post in the Soviet Embassy in Tel Aviv?" The diplomat thinks that a knowledge of Hebrew will indeed be required, since the generation of Russian speakers in the Israeli Foreign Ministry has disappeared. "But I would prefer the consulate in Jerusalem than going to Tel Aviv, perhaps in the Russian compound."

IDF To Change Anti-Terrorism Policy in Lebanon

TA311849 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The IDF is to change its policy of uprooting trees and knocking down structures in south Lebanon which have been used as a cover for attacks on Israeli soldiers. The details from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] The policy has been a controversial one from its inception. There has been ongoing debate between supporters of the truly security aspects of the actions and those who argue they can only increase hostility and attacks against Israeli soldiers. In south Lebanon the policy has been resented, denounced, and used to fuel anti-Israeli incitement among the local population.

Even though compensation was paid to the owners of buildings and orchards affected the damage was more than just physical and adversely affected our relations with local residents, said one Israeli tonight who is familiar with the situation in south Lebanon.

The increase in attacks on Israelis in the south led to an increase in the number of times Israeli bulldozers brought down structures and trees that had provided cover for the attackers. But in south Lebanon, especially along the coastal highway, dense foliage and citrus orchards stretch almost all the way from the Israeli border to the Al-Awwali River.

This month there have been 46 reported ambushes and attempted attacks against Israelis in south Lebanon, 30 of them in the coastal area. This is the highest figure since the IDF moved into position along the Al-Awwali River line in September. Two Israelis were killed and 11 wounded during the month. The army has brought in paratroop units, stepped up its mobile patrols, and added new security measures including the bulldozing policy to fight the hit-and-run attacks, most of which are openly accepted as being carried out by local residents from the predominantly Shi'ite community.

At the same time, Israel has continued efforts to achieve cooperation and good relations with the south Lebanese. Israelis involved in these efforts maintain that there is a silent majority which wants good relations with Israel and the IDF, but that the extremists from the Amal organization and the Shi'ite religious leadership, together with pro-Khomeyni fanatics, are setting the tone through word and deed.

Now, in an effort to reduce some of the hostility and criticism against it, the IDF plans to cut down its bulldozing policy, acting only when it is sure that owners of buildings and orchards were involved in attacks from their property against Israelis. [end recording]

International Terrorists Reported in Ba'labakk
TA272008 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Test] Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky has learned that terrorists belonging to an international terrorist organization can be found in the terrorist bases in Ba'labakk. They are members of the Japanese Red Army and the Armenian terrorist movement. He adds that it is not yet clear whether or not the terrorists will participate in terrorist acts, or will only train for a certain period of time.

Shi'ite Leaders Call for Israeli-Lebanese Dialogue
TA291117 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Jan 84 p 1

[Report by the Arab affairs correspondent]

[Excerpt] Religious Shi'ite leaders in southern Lebanon, including Parliament members such as the veteran Tyre delegate Qadim al-Khalil, over the weekend called on Israel to begin a dialogue with the Lebanese Government on the issue of gradually turning over government in the south to the latter.

These calls came in reaction to remarks made last week by Defense Minister Moshe Arens in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. They are essentially different from the hostile reactions of the Amal leaders and those of the Shi'ite Religious Council.

Eight Lebanese Injured in Attack on IDF in Sidon
TA011023 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1016 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Eight Lebanese citizens were injured when a grenade thrown at an IDF patrol in Sidon exploded. Our forces did not sustain any casualties. Our correspondent reports that several rounds of light arms fire were directed at the patrol after the grenade was thrown. As said, our forces did not sustain any casualties. The eight Lebanese people who were injured were taken to a local hospital for treatment.

Sidon Car Explosion Denied
TA011125 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon radio station has reported that eight inhabitants of southern Lebanon were injured this morning when IDF soldiers blew up a suspicious car in the main street of Sidon, and then opened fire in the same spot. IDF sources said they do not know about any explosion of a car in Sidon.

Husayn Receives West Bank Delegation For Talks
TA311503 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1325 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Jerusalem, 31 Jan (ITIM) — A 15-man delegation from the Tulkarm region was received yesterday afternoon for a talk with Jordan's King Husayn in his Amman palace.

The delegation, which includes heads of councils and pro-Jordanian notables from councils in the Tulkarm region, left for Jordan this week via the bridges in order to strengthen their ties with Jordan and to be updated on the activity of the new parliament. They also wanted to express their support for the moves of King Husayn who is going to leave for the United States shortly.

Molotov Cocktail Thrown in Nabulus; No Injuries
TA311504 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1445 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown at soldiers near the Nabulus municipal building at noon today. There were no casualties and no damage was caused. Our correspondent Alon Disqin reports that the security forces have begun searches.

Bi'r Zayt University Students Stage Strike
TA311718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Students at Bi'r Zayt University staged a strike today, demonstrated, and attacked an IDF patrol with stones. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that this afternoon the students blocked off streets in Bi'r Zayt and flew flags. The security forces dispersed them with tear gas. The students are now staying on the university premises which the security forces have surrounded. The civilian administration personnel are negotiating with the university authorities. The students demonstrated to protest the attempt to attack Temple Mount and the incidents in Nabulus in the course of which a youth was killed by shots fired by border policy.

Nazareth Rally for Equal Rights for Arabs
TA281220 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] A rally of Jews and Arabs in Nazareth today called for a law which will prohibit ethnic and sectarian discrimination in Israel. The Knesset and the government have also been called upon to guarantee complete equality of rights to Arabs in Israel. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that hundreds of people, including Jewish and Arab public figures, took part in the rally. At the rally, Nazareth Mayor Tawfiq Zayyad expressed concern about declarations on expulsion on Arabs. Alignment MK Shulamit Aloniexpressed the hope that we will soon see the day when racism is a criminal offense in the State of Israel, and that only the citizenship and not the nationality of a person will be noted in the identification cards. MAPAM MK Haya Grossman expressed solidarity with any public struggle which aims to achieve complete equality of rights in Israel.

Restrictions on West Bank Currency Pose Problems

TA271349 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Jan 84 p 3

[Report from West Bank by Tzvi Bar'el]

[Text] From now on, the West Bank residents will be able to keep in their possession a sum equivalent to $2,000 instead of the $3,000 they were allowed to have. This decision was made in parallel with the government's decision to restrict the foreign currency sum which Israeli citizens are allowed to possess.

West Bank merchants said that this new restriction will make trade in the West Bank, mostly conducted in dinars, more difficult, and will turn the majority of merchants and building contractors into lawbreakers. According to them, the situation in the West Bank is different from Israel, since the commercial link with Jordan compels the businessmen to have dinars.

A Molotov cocktail was thrown last night at an IDF patrol moving near the Nabulus municipal building. There were no casualties and no damage was caused. Another Molotov cocktail was discovered nearby. The security forces began searches.

The representatives of the Al-Jalazun refugee camp near Ramallah were summoned for a talk with the new head of civilian administration in the district, Lieutenant Colonel Morris Bar-Kochba. Some of them said that in the course of the talk the head of the district civilian administration tried to convince them to build new houses at some distance from the site of the present camp, while promising aid. However, in answer to this the refugees' representatives told him they do not intend to abandon a place where they have lived for 35 years, as long as there is no overall solution to the problem.

It was reported by the civilian administration that the objective of the talk was to discuss the issue of stone throwing with the representatives, and there was no intention to enter into a discussion on the refugees' relocation.

Ramallah District Management Under Investigation

TA271340 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 Jan 84 p 3

[Report by Yosef Tzuri'el]

[Text] The military police have been checking suspicions of mismanagement, transgression of rules, and the extension of extraordinary privileges to Arabs who maintain good relations with the military government in the Ramallah District civilian administration. At stake is a new building which has recently been constructed near the civilian administration's offices. The police are now checking whether there were any deviations from the IDF's standing procedures. The specifications of the tender won by the Public Works Department refer to the coating of the building with plaster (which is cheaper). However, a civilian administration official ordered stones to coat the building from an Arab in Ramallah who had close relations with the civilian administration.

The investigation has had an adverse effect on the atmosphere among those in charge of the affairs of the Arabs in the area and has disrupted working procedures. Another affair currently being investigated refers to the issuing of many permits (in contravention of regulations) to visits in Judaea and Samaria by Jordanians. The permits were given to an inhabitant of Ramallah who distributed them among Jordanian relatives and collected money for them. The military police are investigating the involvement of the former district commander, Colonel Yig'al Mezayed, and the deputy commander of the civilian administration in Ramallah, Lieutenant Colonel Roni Gilo. The police have not yet completed the investigation.

MA'ARIV Commentary on Civilian Administration

TA291418 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 29 Jan 84 p 8

[Commentary by Yosef Tzuri'el: "The Civilian Administration as an Illusion"]

[Text] Every possible mistake in the administrative aspect and in relationships with the Arabs of the region has been made. Therefore, the opportunity that has arisen with the departure of Brigadier General Shlomo Ilia should be seized to eradicate the remnants of the illusions sown by Ari'el Sharon, the founder of autonomy to the Arabs of Judaea and Samaria and the one who introduced new procedures in the area. A delicate fabric of relations could have been established through the years between the Arabs of the administered territories and the Israeli authorities. Also, that which was laboriously built could be undermined and substituted with a heap of slogans, promises, and hopes which might be good for the Jews but which are certainly bad for the Arabs.

This has been the case in the last 2 years, and this must come to an end now. There was a calamitous year during which mayors were deposed, serious disturbances occurred, the Village Leagues were cultivated, and all those who did not agree with Ari'el Sharon and his emissaries were intimidated. This year was followed by another year of confusion, of picking up the pieces and attempting to heal that which was destroyed and ruined in vain.

The source of all this was one with an attractive and promising outward appearance, that is, the civilian administration. This term did not emit any bad odors and did not include any repulsive elements; but it was devoid of content and, what is even worse, it did not have anybody who would add some real content to it. All that was to it was a declaration of intentions and, whenever necessary, there were threats, promises, and privileges for those who toed the line, to those who in some way operated against "hostile elements."

It is possible to assess the damage today but it is hard to see the efficiency of this system. The initial damage was caused when the system that took so much to consolidate was sabotaged. One clear day, the order was issued and units began to disperse, working methods changed, and cooperation with the Arabs of the area started to crumble. All this was done without any prior coordination, without thoroughly studying the issue and without taking into account the views of knowledgeable and experienced people.

The one that paid the price right away was the Shin Bet. It had used a working method that had proved itself; it had had an order of priorities; and, what is more, it had seen eye-to-eye with the top echelon of the military government. Upon the establishment of the civilian administration, things suddenly turned upside down. The security element which had always been dominant in the field became secondary. From then on, "political objectives" topped the ladder of priorities and there were also people who imposed new orders.

The army works with orders and this also applies to the military government. However, there is a difference between the two. One may order the transfer of a division from one place to another within a few hours, but is almost impossible to order staff officers and their aides to carry out an order they do not feel comfortable with or that undermines their status and salary.

The involvement of civilian authorities in issues controlled by the IDF has been both beneficial and detrimental. This is exactly when happened when the civilian administration was separated from the military government. The heads of the civilian administration could issue orders in any direction, impose deadlines, and even issue reprimands. However, this did not help them achieve the results they had hoped for because people in the field were either ill at ease with the orders or sneered at their superiors. Since they wanted "to keep their hands clean" they passed the buck to the inhabitants of the region: Let them suffer; they are suffering anyway.

Even the most gifted IDF officer could not have restored this devastated apparatus as long as the authority structure remained unchanged. It had to be either restored or to undergo new changes. However, nothing was done and that is why the head of the civilian administration, Shlomo Ilia, was forced to mark time.

Now that he has left that post, the defense minister, the chief of staff, and the coordinator of activities in the territories are presented with an opportunity to ponder the question: Will they also have intentions to change orders in the administered territories in anticipation of far reaching political moves, or will they make do with maintaining whatever exists at present until such moves are consolidated and only then think about changing the structure of the military and civilian rule in the area?

Whatever the considerations of the political level are, the civilian administration has already lost all its prestige and status. As far as the Arabs are concerned, it is an excess they will have to come to terms with just as they have become accustomed to roadblocks. As far as the IDF officers and the various ministerial representatives are concerned, it is a monument to a hope which did not come true.

AL-FAJR Urges Arab League Charter Amendment

JN301415 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 29 Jan 84 p 1

[Editorial: "A Practical Step for the Arab League"]

[Text] The proposal made recently to amend the Arab League Charter to enable it to issue decisions by majority vote instead of unanimity — as has been the rule so far — is actually a sound and practical proposal. This is because the principle of adopting decisions unanimously has proven to be a failure, not only on Arab levels but also on international levels, and especially with the United Nations which failed many times to adopt successful and practical decisions on important world issues. This failure is due to the United Nation's applying the rule of unanimity in making decisions instead of applying the rule of the majority.

Applying the principle of unanimity in adopting decisions gives the minority the opportunity — regardless of the weight and opinion of this minority — to foil the chances that the majority may have to adopt decisions, particularly the fateful ones. This matter certainly causes numerous dangers.

On the Arab level, a single Arab League member-state can paralyze the League and prevent it from performing its pan-Arab role at a time when matters accumulate and in an age that ridicules hesitation and delay.

It is very normal that opinions differ on a certain issues, but the passive stand must not dominate the conflicting opinions — like what is taking place in our present case. What must happen is that democracy should dominate in this regard. Differences of opinion is healthy because the doors are kept open for various thoughts and ideas.

On this basis and out of conviction, we support any step to amend the Arab League system of voting in order to provide the League with the ability to move on the Arab and international levels, instead of enabling a single Arab state, for instance, to paralyze this ability. We must remember that it is impossible for the opinions of all Arab League member-states to be hamonious.

We must not forget on this occasion to note that adopting a step to amend the Arab League's voting system should have been made several years ago. However, the time is ripe for adopting this step, far removed from hesitation and procrastination.

As Palestinians, and amid the current fateful circumstances that confront our cause, we hope that we will be able to adopt the decisions that are related to our fate based on the principle of majority, not unanimity — no matter how different our opinions are — in order to avoid any possible new dangers.

Majority Would Exchange Territory for Peace

TA010940 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Feb 84 p 3

[Public opinion poll]

[Text] Tel Aviv — A majority of the public would give up areas in Judaea and Samaria in exchange for peace with Jordan, according to a poll conducted in December for *THE JERUSALEM POST* by the Modi'in Ezrahi Research Institute.

The poll, which sampled 1,292 adult Jews who do not live in the areas, found that 44 per cent would give up some part and 33.8 per cent would not give up any. Those who would cede all of Judaea and Samaria — but not Jerusalem — totalled 17.9 per cent.

The poll also noted a mellowing of opinion on the question over the preceding three months. A similar poll in October found that 41.1 per cent would part with some of the areas, while 42.5 per cent would not.

A similar trend was noted over whether to dismantle settlements in Judaea and Samaria in exchange for peace with Jordan. Those who favour dismantling all settlements totalled 10.1 per cent, up from 6.4 per cent in October's poll. In December, 27 per cent favoured dismantling some settlements, compared to 22.1 per cent in October.

Regarding a freeze on establishing new settlements, 28.6 per cent favoured this in December, down from 32.1 per cent in October. Those opposed to such a freeze totalled 26.1 per cent last month, compared to 30.8 per cent in October.

Poll Indicates Jews Oppose Living With Arabs

TA301258 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 30 Jan 84 p 1

[PORI Poll]

[Text] Over half of the Jewish public in Israel is opposed to Jews and Arabs residing together, in contrast to a third who support such residence. These are the findings of a nationwide public opinion poll conducted by the PORI institute and commissioned by *HA'ARETZ*.

The following question was presented to the adult Jewish population: "There has lately been an argument in Israel on the issue of Arabs and Jews living together in the same building. What is your position on this, are you for or against?" Of those polled, 53 percent said they are opposed; 33 percent said they support this; while another 5 percent said this depends on the circumstances, such as which quarter or settlement is involved, the relations which will exist between the two peoples, and the level of the Arabs who are candidates for joint residence. Nine percent refrained from expressing an opinion.

The opponents to living together were asked to explain the reasons for their opposition. Analysis indicates that the major reason for opposition stems from the opinion that there is a cultural and social gap between Jews and Arabs. Of the opponents, 36 percent said that Jews and Arabs are not suited for this due to a different mentality between the two nations, and that living together would only lead to friction. Some 24 percent put the blame on the Arabs — namely, there can be no living together since they hate us; they are our enemies; we cannot trust them or rely on them; they want to gain control over us and do not recognize us. Some 20 percent are afraid of assimilation and a negative influence on the children. In their opinion residing together, which entails the same education, will bring about mixed marriages and will have a negative effect on the education of children. Some 11 percent said openly that they do not love Arabs and are not prepared to live with them. Some 5 percent expressed more extreme opinions, saying that this is a Jewish state where there is no place for Arabs at all, and that the Arabs had better live in other countries. And 4 percent refused to explain their opposition to joint residence.

Analysis of the findings according to party affiliations indicates that the strongest opposition to joint Arab and Jewish residence was registered among voters of TAMI, Tehiya, and the religious parties. Opposition to joint residence among these groups reaches more than 75 percent.

Opposition to joint residence reaches 68 percent among Likud voters, while Alignment voters are almost exactly divided on this issue: 44 percent of Alignment voters are opposed to joint residence, while 43 percent support it.

The poll was conducted a week ago and encompassed a representative sample of 1,200 men and women, 18 years old and upward, who were personally and confidentially interviewed throughout the country.

Experts See Promise in West Bank Oil Drilling

TA311049 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 31 Jan 84 p 1

[Report by Ze'ev Struminsky]

[Text] This very year, apparently in 8 months, a private Israeli company is to begin the first drilling to search for oil in the West Bank. Next year two other drills are expected in the West Bank, drills which appear "promising" to Israeli experts.

Thus a new era has begun in the search for oil in the territories administered by Israel at present. So far Israel has not made any drillings in new sites in the West Bank, but has been content to deepen the wells existing from the period of Jordanian rule.

Sources from the oil establishment comment that to date searches for oil in the West Bank have only been in preliminary stages. Apart from four wells from the Jordanian period and the three expanded by Israel, no other drilling has been carried out in that area. By way of comparison, to date 350 drillings have been carried out within the Green Line area.

Egypt's Khalil on Relations With Israel After ICO

TA310820 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Former Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil interviewed by Arab affairs correspondent (Eldad Beq) by telephone — recorded, date and place not given]

[Text] [(Beq)] Would you describe Egypt's return to the Islamic Conference Organization a victory? That was the first question we asked former Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil, and his reply was definite:

[Khalil in English] Oh, sure, because the return to the Islamic Conference is without any conditions whatsoever, and we consider this a kind of reasonable resolution taken by the conference. Egypt didn't make any attempts before. The initiative came from the other countries, sponsored by Mr Ahmed Sekou Toure and Yaqub Khan.

[(Beq)] This definitely is a victory because the return to the

organization is without any conditions whatsoever, and we consider it a logical solution by the conference, Khalil said. Egypt took no action and the return was initiated by the leaders of the moderate countries. In reply to a question regarding whether Egypt's return to the Muslim world would damage its relations with Israel, Khalil said:

[Khalil in English] No. Mr Mubarak issued a statement in which he said there has been nothing contrary to the Egyptian sovereignty, which is very clear; it doesn't contradict with the Egyptian treaty and the Egyptian obligations, and this is sovereignty.

[(Beq)] This will not be so, Khalil said. President Mubarak has issued a statement according to which no step whatsoever has been taken that would damage Egypt's sovereignty; that is, the move will clearly not harm the Egyptian treaty and Egyptian obligations, which comprise sovereignty. Well, this being so, will Egypt's membership in an organization that condemns the Camp David agreements harm relations with Israel?

[Khalil in English] No, of course it will not. Definitely not.

[(Beq)] We asked Khalil how he personally views the event, and he replied:

[Khalil in English] The steps are in a direction of peaceful efforts to establish a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and they are a triumpt for moderation and the Egyptian position, which has always insisted on solving the problems through peaceful negotiations.

[(Beq)] The steps taken are in the direction of peaceful efforts to establish a comprehensive peace in the Middle East and an attempt to lead to moderation, in accordance with Egypt's position, which has always been to solve the problems in our area through peaceful means, Khalil said. Mustafa Khalil, who was prime minister during the period when the Arab countries severed their relations with Egypt because it signed the peace agreement, doesn't think that Egypt's path to the Arab world will now become easier.

[Khalil in English] It will depend on many things, because in the Arab world the issue of whether the return of Egypt would be taken by a unanimous or majority vote is not yet settled. So they have to settle that problem and then the return of Egypt to the Arab world will be determined.

[(Beq)] It will depend on many things, because the Arab world has not yet decided whether Egypt's return is to be based on unanimity or majority vote, Khalil stated. And he concluded: They must first decide on this, and only then will Egypt's return to the Arab world be completed.

Navy Boats Patrol Tiran Straits

TA301233 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 30 Jan 84 pp1, 11

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] Israeli Navy Dabur crafts are maintaining a regular presence in the Gulf of Elat and the Tiran Straits in the framework of day-to-day security patrols intended to prevent hostile elements entering by sea.

Some of the patrols of the Dabur coastal craft take place during the day, demonstrating their presence along the Gulf. The ships sail along the Gulf shore, making sure they do not penetrate the territorial waters of one of the three confrontation countries: Jordan, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia.

The area is usually quiet. The confrontation countries have patrol craft in a number of anchorage spots along the Gulf. Each side is particular about keeping the quiet, and since the peace treaty with Egypt there have been no provocation attempts against Israel.

Senior officers in the Navy explain that before the IDF withdrawal from the Sinai, our ships controlled the entries to the Elat and Suez Gulfs and the Red Sea as far as the Bab al-Mandab straits. This control made it possible to react quickly in case of an attempt to close down the straits. Following the withdrawal from the Sinai, the Navy has remained in a narrow "swimming pool" in the Gulf of Elat without maneuvering room.

The Navy is maintaining a constant alert. The commander of the Navy's southern arena, Colonel 'A., explains that the boundaries in this sector are very close to each other and events can develop rapidly.

There are two observation positions on the Isle of Tiran: one for the Multinational Force and the other for Egypt.

ALGERIA

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Arrives for Talks

LD010043 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John Block arrived today on a working visit to our country at the invitation of his Algerian counterpart. He was welcomed at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Kasdi Merbah, alternate member of the Politburo and minister of agriculture and maritime fishing, as well as the U.S. ambassador to Algeria.

In a statement to newsmen, Mr Block noted that during his stay in Algiers he will hold talks with Algerian officials in the Agriculture Ministry on the possibility of developing cooperation in this field.

The Algerian-U.S. talks began this afternoon at the Agriculture and Maritime Fishing Ministry under the chairmanship of Brother Kasdi Merbah and Mr Block. They studied the protocol agreement on cooperation in agriculture and trade exchanges between the two countries. The Algerian and American sides expressed their desire to establish fruitful cooperation in the interest of the two countries.

Malagasy Presidential Envoy Arrives With Message

LD010942 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The Malagasy minister of commerce and special envoy of President Ratsiraka, Georges Solofson, arrived in Algiers this afternoon. He is carrying a message from the president of Madagascar to the president of Algeria.

LIBYA

Protest Made to Tunisia Over 'Arafat Groups

LD312025 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1945 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli, 31 Jan (JANA) — Today the People's Bureau for External Liaison in Tripoli summoned the charge d'affaires of the Tunisian High Commission in the Jamahiriyah and informed him of the displeasure of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah with the fact that Tunisia is turning into a center for the activities of the gangs formed by Yasir 'Arafat to assassinate Libyan elements working abroad, in revenge for the principled and firm stance of the Jamahiriyah in confronting all the capitulatory tendencies that contradict the aspirations and hopes of Arab nationalism.

The charge d'affaires of the Tunisian High Commission was told that in the light of the distinguished relations between the two countries, the Jamahiriyah finds it unacceptable that Tunisia is a center for the subversive activities that Yasir 'Arafat and his clique are engineering against the Libyans.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives International Delegation

LD301512 Tripoli JANA in English 1417 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Tripoli, rabi Thani 25, Jan 30, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The revolution's leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has received the international union delegation of the twinned cities. [sentence as received]

He told the delegation that the principle of this union — such as democracy — is a noble one which clearly finds its into [as received] Libyan cities where the masses system and people's authority are being practiced and implemented. He added that Libya is a masses state without any central power and that people's committees and people's congresses exist in every Libyan city.

"It is a self-rule system without any kind of government. This system does not exist in any city in the world. We therefore call for the establishment of the masses system in the world in order to give peace a real chance to prevail throughout the world."

He went on to say that the world is still suffering from the existing struggle for power by different parties and individuals. "They are struggling to control the people, but the appropriate thing is to enable the people to rule themselves by themselves and not be ruled by dictatorial regimes. The peoples of these countries should try to put an end to such oppression". He added that the principles of the international union of the twinned cities are being threatened because of the existing governments whose behavior differs from the behavior and thinking of the ordinary citizen.

The leader said; "How could it be possible for Ndjamena and Paris to twin while the French Government is extremely hostile to the Chadian people, and how is it possible for Beirut and Paris to twin while, again, the French Government continues to bomb Beirut." He added that the real enemy of the people is the existing government. Because in Europe, for example, the government agreed to deploy U.S. nuclear missiles and the people rejected and demonstrated against them.

The leader elaborated on the different concepts of the third universal theory which consolidated democracy in the Jamahiriyah, such as "the house belongs to its occupier," which gives security to every family, and "the house is served by its own people". He said that such goals give self satisfaction to people and lift pressure from them, as well as free people's needs.

"The application of such concepts needs persistant work and ceaseless struggle". He added; "The twinned Libyan cities with your cities are being threatened by the nuclear missiles in Comiso and other European cities.

America has succeeded in making European cities a launching base for its nuclear missiles. I think Europe has entered a critical stage. The Americans lied to the Europeans and alleged that the deployment of the nuclear missiles was taken as a deterrent measure. On the contrary, the measure actually endangers Europe and makes her the victim of U.S. policies. The European governments have actually shown their naivete by offering their services to the United States. They do not deserve any respect

from the peoples of Europe. The governments of Europe are solely responsible for any further disaster".

The leader added: "Because of the dangers facing the cities of the world, we have drawn up an international law which gives the colonized countries the right to ask for compensation from the colonialists. Therefore, the Libyans have full rights to ask Italy for war reparations. We are serious about the matter and we see it as an important step for the cause of peace".

Egyptian Statement on Return to ICO Criticized

LD310319 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia has affirmed that Egypt's rejoining the ICO will not take place until Egypt eliminates the reasons which led to its suspension from the ICO. This affirmation came in the verbal message which was conveyed to the brother leader of the revolution 2 days ago by the adviser to King Fahd, Shaykh Ali Musallam.

At a time when King Fahd has been stressing this, we see that the Egyptian regime on its part announced that it agrees to resume its membership in the ICO in response to the invitation of the committee formed by the fourth Islamic summit conference. It denied the existence of any conditions to the question of Egypt's resumption of its membership in the organization.

Here we ask: What is the attitude of those who claimed that Egypt would not rejoin the ICO until it rejects the Camp David accords, particularly after the insistence by the head of the Egyptian regime today that Egypt's resumption of its membership is not subject to any conditions?

Therefore, the Egyptian regime is entering the field of challenge and argument to stress that it is not in the least concerned with the matter.

Paper on 'Arabization' of Rapid Deployment Force

LD302314 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 30 Jan (JANA) — Writing editorially today under the caption "The Popular Liberation War," *AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR*, organ of the revolutionary committees, says hardly a day passes without the U.S. Administration coming up with a new plot against the Arab nation. The latest such plot is the attempt to Arabize the American Rapid Deployment Forces — to set up an Arab Rapid Deployment Force to perform the tasks of the American forces in interfering in the Gulf region, controlling the sources of oil,and protecting the interests of the United States and the West.

The paper adds that Reagan has asked Congress to set financial allocations in 1984 for the formation and equipping of a rapid deployment force of Jordanian regular army men, 8,000 strong. In addition to looting Arab wealth, the United States wants to turn the Arabs into fuel for its aggressive wars and guardians of imperialist interests.

The role entrusted to Husayn in protecting U.S. interests in the Arab Gulf is fully compatible with his past and present, as well as his current efforts to sneak capitulationist plans which aim to liquidation of the Palestinian question, recognition of the Zionist entity, and the creation of a feeble state attached to the Hashimite regime under the mercy of so-called Israel.

The Jordanian regime's acceptance of the American announced force indicates the extent to which American imperialism and the reactionary regimes have gone in their insolence and in disregarding the Arab masses, whom they see as something of no consequence.

The paper points out that in the face of this Zionist imperialist reactionary alliance, the Arab masses and revolutionary committees have no alternative but to declare a popular war as the only remaining and effective means to crush the imperialists and the tyrants. In Algeria, Vietnam, Nicaragua, Angola, Mozambique and elsewhere, the masses have triumphed through popular wars. The Arab people today have no alternative but a popular war to liquidate the regimes of treason and to cleanse the Arab homeland of Zionism and the crusades.

Commentary Decries 'Hateful Spirit' of U.S

LD290157 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Administration has been waging a relentless war against the people of the Jamahiriyah. It has resorted to all methods which might undermine the moral spirit of our people and stifle our voice from echoing across the world, because we pose a danger to the United States and to its interests, which are based on the strategy of imperialism and the terrorization of nations. The U.S. Administration previously resorted to an economic blockade of the Jamahiriyah people. But it found our people to be steadfast. It used all the experience of its intelligence services in penetrating our domestic front, and it found it to be cohesive and not easily breached. The United States applied political pressure on our leadership and it found it to be rigid, firm, and unmoved by temptations from its principles. No threats could make our leadership change its stands.

The United States resorted to direct aggression, and it found complete vigilance, a characteristic of the Libyan Arab people. It engineered attempts to assassinate the brother leader of the revolution; all its attempts failed. Today, it misleads world public opinion by making allegations and slanders against the Jamaihiriyah to descredit its reputation and attitudes.

The pretexts of the U.S. Administration are part of the hostile policy and dubious propaganda against the Jamahiriyah. It is an attempt to deprive the Jamahiriyah of foreign technical expertise, and to further its anti-Libyan people policy and its economic boycott. Those who follow these hostile stands of the U.S. Administration toward the Jamahiriyah can see their aims, reasons, and motives. The Libyan Arab masses and their historical leadership adopted a principle and an unchanging stand on the issue of freedom of man in the world. The U.S. Administration slays this

freedom daily in Lebanon, Chad, Grenada, and elsewhere.

The Libyan Arab masses have been leading the front of steadfastness and confrontation against all imperialist and Zionist hegemonistic attempts in the Arab homeland. The U.S. Administration wants Arab regimes to surrender and to kneel before it, and to enter the stable it has prepared for them.

The Libyan Arab masses have supported and still support liberation movements in the world. They stand alongside them materially and morally, as well as enticing the masses of the Arab nation to unite and become a cohesive entity. They are also enticing the international community to take away the right of veto which the U.S. Administration has abused by making it work against the will and freedom of nations. It also entices the people of Europe against the deployment of U.S. missiles on their territory, so that the missiles may not be the means for their destruction.

The Libyan Arab masses also turned their soil into a bastion for free men and revolutionaries, and an international base for opposing imperialism, Zionism, racism, reactionaryism, and fascism.

For all these reasons, it is not strange that the U.S. Administration should embark on hostile, feverish and rancorous activity, or make false allegations and misleading fabrications against the Jamahiriyah. The attempts to blockade the Jamahiriyyah and the attempts to isolate it and tarnish its reputation and principled stands stem from a hostile, hateful spirit against the people of the Jamahiriyah by the U.S. Administration. The Libyan people and their historic leadership stood up to the plots and ambitions of the U.S. Administration, which are engineered by U.S. interests. The Jamahiriyah has exposed and stripped naked the premeditated intentions of the U.S. Administration against the masses of the Arab nation. The Jamahiriyah has also constantly and continuously urged the peoples of the world to be vigilant against the danger that lies behind every U.S. move, whether be it political, military, or economic.

These attempts by the U.S. Administration prove its weakness and inability to harm this nation or make it kneel in surrender, harm its moral spirit, or abandon its attitudes [words indistinct]. This nation is aware of the dimensions and aims behind the plots against the Jamahiriyah people, and aware of the strength, inflexibility, and vigilance of these people who are not influenced by all the psychological, propaganda, economic, and military wars. We proceed from a conviction and faith which cannot be breached or influenced by the challenges of enemies.

To the contrary, these challenges enhance our strength, determination, and vigilance. The challenges drive us toward mobilization so that we become a people fighting for upholding freedom and for the causes of liberation in the world.

JANA: Reagan Decision Prompted by 'Mad Desire'

LD302332 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Washington 30 Jan (JANA) — The head of the U.S. Administration has nominated himself for a second presidential term.

The U.S. President's decision to nominate himself again was prompted by his mad desire to complete the task of spreading terrorism, escalating military oppression, impose domination, endanger world peace, and undermine the stability and security of the countries that refuse to become subservient to the United States.

MAURITANIA

Algerian, Malian Foreign Ministers End Visit

Taya Receives Algerian Visitor

LD311119 Algiers APS in English 1001 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Nouakchott, 31/1/84 (APS) — Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member and foreign minister, who is on a working visit to Nouakchott, conferred with Mauritanian Premier Colonel Maayouia Ould Taya, and with his counterparts Ahmadou Ould Taya and Ahmadou Ould Minnih.

The talks were mainly centered on bilateral cooperation with the holding soon of the joint commission on the international situation,with an emphasis on the Western Sahara, Namibia and Chad problems,as well as the future of the OAU. They examined also the situation in the Middle East. Another series of talks will be held today with the two foreign ministers who will be joined by their Malian counterpart, also currently in Nouakchott.

In a statement released by Radio Nouakchott, Alioune Blondin Beye, Mali head of diplomacy, said this happy coincidence will give the three ministers an opportunity to exchange opinions on the different problems that Africa faces.

Algerian, Malian Ministers Depart

LD312243 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] A short while ago, the foreign ministers of Mali and Algeria left the capital after their visit to our country which lasted 48 hours, during which they held talks with the Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Major Ahmed Ould Minnih.

Energy Minister Leaves for Algeria With Message

LD010941 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Mohamed Fadel Ould Dah, minister of water supply and energy, left the capital this morning for Algeria with a message from Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, the prime minister and minister of defense, for his Algerian counterpart, Abdel Hamid Ibrahimi.

The minister was accompanied by a high-level delegation, including the director general of the Mauritanian Company for Oil Industries.

MOROCCO

KUNA: Hassan May Visit Libya in 'Late February'

LD311514 Kuwait KUNA in English 1429 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, Jan 31 (KUNA) — King Hassan II of Morocco will visit Libya late in February, in a move signaling further relaxation of strained relations between the two neighboring Arab countries, a diplomatic source told KUNA Tuesday. The trip was agreed upon during a visit to Rabat lact week by a high-level Libyan group comprising 18 ministers, according to the source.

The Moroccan monarch told a joint Libyan-Moroccan commission last week he had accepted Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's invitation to visit Tripoli.

King Hassan and Al-Qadhdhafi until recently have been at odds over Al-Qadhdhafi's support for the Western Saharan guerrillas fighting for independence from Morocco. Al-Qadhdhafi visited Morocco last June, ending eleven years of tension between the two countries.

Meanwhile, a Libyan diplomatic source told KUNA a team of the Moroccan Ministry of Energy will visit Tripoli shortly for talks on the import of Libyan oil in implementation of agreements recently concluded by the joint Libyan-Moroccan commission.

Islamic Committee Members Conclude Visit

LD311449 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Members of the Islamic committee formed by the fourth Islamic summit conference in Casablanca to deal with the question of Egypt's return to the ICO , left Morocco this morning.

Committee chairman and Guinean President Sekou Toure left Sale airport at noon today. He was seen off by Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed and members of the government, headed by Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani, the governor of Rabat Province, the Guinean ambassador to Morocco and a number of notables.

Earlier today, the other members of the committee left Morocco. They were: the Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Tariq 'Aziz; Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzad Yaqub Khan; and the ICO's secretary general, Habib Chatti. They were seen off by Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdelouahid Belkeziz, the ambassadors of Iraq and Pakistan and other notables.

King Hassan II last night at the royal palace received the members of the committee following their return from Cairo.

Before leaving Morocco, President Sekou Toure received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat who arrived in our country last night. Yasir 'Arafat this morning met with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

Official Scores Foreign Media on Coverage

LD301347 Rabat MAP in English 1226 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Jakarta, Jan 30 (MAP) — Morocco denounced here Saturday the deliberately hostile attitude of certain media — especially certain French and Spanish press media — during the disturbances that occurred recently in northern Morocco.

In his comments during the plenary session of the Conference of Information Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries (COMINAC), Mr Abdeljalil Fenjiro, director general of the Moroccan news agency MAGHREB ARABE PRESSE, uncovered the duplicity of these media which "have an odd conception of objectivity and credibility." Mr Fenjiro appealed for the setting up of a national information and communication order and the consolidation of the South-South communication order.

Mr Fenjiro recalled the international situation regarding information which is monopolized by the developed countries. This he ascribed to their superiority in sophisticated communications technology, enabling them to make news circulate within and outside their frontiers, whereas Third World news circulation is hindered at various levels, in addition to technical defaults [as received], and other factors — such as psychological ones — which paralyze Third World attempts to communicate with developed countries, which close themselves off to developing countries' press, Mr Fenjiro explained.

The dependence of the Third World countries make them subject to the distortions of their image, due to the choice of information disseminated by Western news agencies which highlight only tension or violence phenomena in the Third World, and are mute with respect to positive achievements. Mr Fenjiro expressed indignation regarding the news disseminated recently about the events that occurred recently in Morocco and which were scandalously reported by certain international media.

Mr Fenjiro urged participants to set up a national information order within each of the countries of the Third World, and parallel to this a South-South communication order so as to develop dialogue between developed and developing countries.

Saudi King Fahd Stops for Airport Meeting

LD312356 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi monarch, arrived this evening in Sale airport from Res. He was received at the airport by His Majesty King Hassan II; His Royal Highness Prince Sidi Mohammed, the crown prince; Mr Yasir 'Arafat, the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee; the members of the government with the prime minister, Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani, at their head; his majesty's adviser; and some of the high ranking officers of the Royal Armed Forces.

His Majesty King Hassan II and his great guest, after inspecting a squad of the Royal Guards, talked in the airport's VIP hall for an hour.

After the meeting, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left Morocco.

He was seen off by His Majesty King Hassan II; His Royal Highness Prince Sidi Mohammed, the crown prince; Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee; the members of the government; the Prime Minister, Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani; his majesty's adviser; some high ranking officers of the Supreme Command of the Royal Armed Forces; and a number of dignitaries.

SUDAN

Numayri Sends Message to Saudi King Fahd

JN311831 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1735 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Riyadh, 31 Jan (SUNA) — Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and regent, has received a message from Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri for the Saudi monarch, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The message deals with bilateral relations between the two countries and matters of mutual concern. Dr Baha' ad-Din Muhammad Idris, minister in the president's office, conveyed the message when Prince 'Abdallah received him in Riyadh today.

Egyptian Defense Minister on Chad, Iran-Iraq War

JN282016 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1412 GMT 28 Jan 84

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Jan (SUNA) — Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has said that the Libyan regime's escalation of the situation in Chad is very serious and that Egypt opposes any attempt to interfere in any state's domestic affairs. He expressed the hope that Libya will reconsider its interference in Chad. Commenting on the Iraq-Iran war, Abu Ghazalah added: As two Arab states, Egypt and Sudan wish that the Iraq-Iran war would stop. Abu Ghazalah pointed out that the only losers in this war are the Islamic people, and that stopping the bloodshed is in the interest of the Islamic nation. Abu Ghazalah said that the war industry in Egypt has entered the stage of production. He pointed out that Egypt has made good progress in this regard. He added that the Arab and African states will benefit from the Egyptian industrial base and that this base will meet their defensive needs. Regarding provocations against Sudan by some neighboring states, Abu Ghazalah said: Egypt is linked with Sudan by a joint agreement in defense, and the terms of this agreement will be implemented. It is noteworthy that Abu Ghazalah arrived here on a 1-day visit with a message to President Numayri from his Brother President Mubarak.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Speaks at Defense Institute Ceremony

LD311642 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] There was an important national event in Tunis today. The supreme combatant President Habib Bourguiba, commander-in-chief of the armed forces, presided over the inauguration of the Institute of National Defense and the start of this institute's first term. The inauguration ceremony was held at the Palace of the Republic in Carthage.

The ceremony was attended by Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and interior minister; Slaheddine Baly, minister of national defense; a large number of senior officers of the three armed forces; and a number of state cadres appointed from various ministries to attend the lessons and lectures to be given at this institute.

After shaking hands with his guests, recalling memories of the national struggle and the ordeals of the Tunisian people in the colonial era, the president addressed the officers and state cadres. He began by expressing his great pleasure at presiding, as commander-in-chief of the armed forces, over this meeting which brought together all the active forces of new Tunisia.

President Habib Bourguiba then spoke about the theory of comprehensive defense on which the idea of the creation of the Institute of National Defense is based, stressing the need to ensure the participation of civilians and all the people in defending the gains of the state (?so as to provide Tunisia with) tough men who will stand up as one in the face of an aggressor and beat it back.

He said that this requires from us the acquisition of sophisticated weaponry, announcing that Tunisia has purchased from France and the United States weapons for the land, air, and naval forces, and that the Tunisian people will be able to see them during the large parade to be held for this purpose. He expressed his hope that he will be the one to preside over this parade.

The supreme combatant also announced on this occasion that any Tunisian doctor graduating from Tunisian medical faculties must spend 2 years of civil service in rural areas in order to prevent an excessive number of doctors being in big cities, leaving a shortage in rural areas.

The supreme combatant lauded the stance of the Tunisian Army during the recent events and the sincerity and loyalty it had shown in the service of the nation, a matter that made the foreign press cite it as a good example. In this respect, President Habib Bourguiba touched upon the agreement reached recently between Tunisia and Shaykh Salih Abdullah al-Kamil, the Saudi businessman, saying that this reaffirms the confidence of Saudi investors and [words indistinct]. This agreement augurs well for the Tunisian economy [passage indistinct].

Among the conditions of this defense strategy is: First, firm defense determination with reliance on our own potential and [word indistinct] for vigilance and confrontation. Second, monolithic national unity concentrated on collective conscience and a deep sense of national solidarity. Third, assimilation of the broad basis and (mobilization? of active forces [words indistinct] in order to confront [words indistinct]). The minister noted that comprehensive defense can be positive only if it meets four conditions: diplomatic defense, civil defense, and economic defense. The fourth condition is military preparation for all citizens.

It is noteworthy that the legal basis for the creation of the Institute of National Defense is Article 25 of the constitution, which stipulates that defense of the homeland is a sacred duty for all citizens. This means that the defense of the country [words indistinct].

Bourguiba Urges Firm Action Against 'Murderers'
LD301803 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpts] President Habib Bourguiba today presided over a meeting of the Supreme Judiciary Council at the Republican Palace at Carthage in the presence of the prime minister and minister of the interior, Mohamed Mzali, and the minister of justice, Mohamed Chakir, who delivered a speech in which he affirmed that the most important characteristic of the present regime is the prevalance of security and the people's feeling of reassurance about their lives, property, and honour.

President Habib Bourguiba delivered a speech at the meeting.

President Bourguiba then spoke of the events of 3 January. He called on the criminal courts to be rigorous in their consideration of the cases of the 5 murderers who exploited the conditions of anarchy that spread after the increase in the prices of bread, in order to commit acts of murder.

President Bourguiba said that the people rejoiced greatly at the measures he had taken, adding: I met with the people in Carthage, as I have nothing to fear from the people for whose sake I struggled for 50 years — and this is something no other leader has ever done. I have liberated the women and opened the field of education freely before all sons of the people, while knowing full well that this would create problems for us. Yet we have accepted the need to face these problems because we prefer to talk with a vigilant, educated and responsible people.

In conclusion, the grand combatant called on the judges to learn lessons from his speech as they consider the cases of the ugly crimes committed by the criminals on 3 January.

President Appoints New Public Security Director
LD310607 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Commenting on President Habib Bourguiba's decision to appoint Mr (Zine Labidin Ben Ali) as director general of public security, well informed sources in the Ministry of the Interior informed TAP that this decision has come to unite the security structure in the country. This will help the various structures under the Department of Public Security to shoulder their responsibilities in the best possible way, and in complete harmony.

Also, the elimination of the police department in the region of Tunis recently comes within this framework, which is aimed at making the Department of Public Security work seriously and firmly toward establishing security and protecting the achievements of the nation, thus supplying a suitable atmosphere for working toward the higher interests of the country.

KENYA

Moi Urges Regulation of Trade With Neighbors

EA010028 Nairobi KNA in English 1520 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Nakuru, Jan. 31 — President Daniel arap Moi said today that all goods shipped to neighbouring countries must be accompanied by a letter of credit to show that there was a banking arrangement between Kenyan businessmen and those in neighbouring states.

The president said this would ensure that all goods being shipped from Kenya were paid for in foreign exchange. And he told the western provincial commissioner, Mr. Julius Kobia, to ensure that no goods passed through the border to Uganda without going through the process conducted by the Customs Department.

President Moi said that while Kenya wanted to help her neighbours by supplying them with goods, it is essential that trade with neighbouring states be streamlined to avoid loss of foreign exchange.

The president was addressing a delegation from Ikolomani constituency in Western Province which called on him at his Kabarak home.

Death Sentence Against Black S. African Decried

LD311239 Nairobi KNA in English 0920 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Nairobi, Jan 31 — The minister for foreign affairs, Mr. Elijah Mwangale, has issued the following statement following South Africa's rejection of a death sentence appeal by a black South Africa opponent of the apartheid system Mr. Malesela Benjamin Moloise.

Kenya has learnt with indignation of the current decision of South African authorities to reject an appeal against the death sentence imposed on Malesela Benjamin Moloise in June 1983. Kenya is gravely concerned about the activities of the South African regime which has continuously persisted on the policy of denying human rights to the black people of South Africa by unjust and unfair political trials and has resorted to cruel physical means of eliminating those citizens opposed to apartheid and its evils. Conscious of the fact that carrying out the death sentence will defy universal conscience and further aggravate the situation in South Africa [he urged the] authorities to reconsider their decision and spare the life of Mr Moloise by commuting the death sentence imposed on him.

TANZANIA

SWAPO's Nujoma Sees Nyerere, Assails Crocker Tour

EA311202 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Dodoma — The president of South West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, Ndugu Sam Nujoma, has said that the military struggle in Namibia is being intensified regardless of current Western diplomatic moves.

Speaking to newsmen at the Dodoma Airport this morning, the SWAPO leader said the struggle to liberate Namibia has been given a new dimension following full participation of the masses inside the country. He said the period of 17 years of suffering and sacrifice endured by the people of Namibia during the struggle was longer than the interim period for total victory, which he emphasized was certain.

Ndugu Nujoma's comments come in the wake of a diplomatic mission to southern Africa by the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Mr Chester Crocker, who is due to meet Mwalimu [Nyerere] tomorrow. Ndugu Nujoma dismissed the American initiative as a diplomatic ploy intended to hoodwink the people of Namibia and Africa.

The SWAPO president is in Dodoma for a 1-day visit to brief President Nyerere, who is also the chairman of the frontline states, on the military and political climate in and around Namibia. He is accompanied by the SWAPO secretary of foreign affairs, Ndugu Peter (Mwashihangi).

SWAPO Battlefield Successes Touted

EA010039 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Summary] Chamwino: President Nyerere today held talks with SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma at the Chamwino state lodge in Dodoma ruraldistrict.

Briefing the president, Sam Nujoma said SWAPO forces inside Namibia are achieving more successes in the battlefield. He appealed to the international community to continue putting pressure on the South African racist regime to implement UN Resolution 435, which calls for free and fair elections in Namibia.

President Receives Messages From Machel, Bourguiba

EA010007 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Summary] Chamwino: President Nyerere today received messages from President Samora Machel of Mozambique and President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia.

The message from President Machel, delivered by the Mozambique ambassador, concerns matters of mutual interest between the two countries, and the ambassador also briefed the president on the situation in his country.

The message from President Bourguiba was delivered by the Tunisian minister of state for foreign affairs, Mahmud Mistiri, who arrived in Chamwino this morning. Minister Mistiri and President Nyerere held a lengthy discussion on African affairs, especially the Western Sahara, Namibia, and the liberation struggle in southern Africa.

UGANDA

Political Motives Seen Behind Slayings in Mpigi

EA312253 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A band of heartless killers has attacked villagers in Muduma subcounty in Mpigi District, killing at least 27 persons, including very young children.

In a statement issued this evening by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, security forces have now established the identity of the band of killers, and two persons are helping the police in their investigations. The government, the statement said, deeply regrets the loss of life and that the massacre should have happened during a solemn weekend of the enthronement of the archbishop of Uganda at which the archbishop of Canterbury was to officiate.

The incident took place on the evening of Friday, 27 January, when a band of heartless killers attacked villagers in Muduma subcounty, Mpigi district, with pangas, axes, and knives. The attack began about 2000. The band went to search for the home of the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] chairman of the area, where they herded six people into a house and killed them. The band then went from one homestead to another along a stretch of some five miles, attacking home and killing the inhabitants therein. In all 27 persons lost their lives, including very young children. (?Ten) other persons were injured and are receiving treatment in hospital.

Eyewitnesses said that the majority of the attackers were youngish men in their early twenties and wore civilian clothes, but the leaders were of middle age. The band did not take property, although in some of the homes they demanded (?and received) money. The (?extent) of this wanton killing, according to the police, indicates that the motive of the killers was political.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

President Kolingba Bans Meetings, Closes Schools

AB311615 Paris AFP in English 1558 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Bangui, Jan 31 (AFP) — The head of state of the Central African Republic, General Andre Kolingba, has shut down all schools and colleges in Bangui and the Higher Institute of Rural Development, a broadcast statement said today. He has also banned all meetings and rallies and suspended two organizations, the National Association of Centrafrican Students and the Centrafrican Schools Union.

All those who ignored the bans would be considered a threat to state security, the general's statement said.

'Terrorist' With Foreign National Targets Arrested

AB010820 Paris AFP in French 0717 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] [Passage indistinct] In the night of Monday to Tuesday, the CAR (?authorities) arrested a foreign national sent to the CAR for criminal purposes, it was learned in Bangui on Tuesday. According to the authorities, "the terrorist agent," who was arrested while trying to flee, was carrying explosive devices and was ready to carry out a "terrorist act" against foreign nationals in the CAR.

CHAD

Communique on Extension of Surveillance Zone

AB311345 Paris Diplomatic Information Service in French 1230 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the French Ministry of Defense in Paris on 27 January]

[Text] Following the attack on the post of Ziguey in the evening of Tuesday, 24 January, by some armed elements from northern Chad, the Ministry of Defense has asked the Army Command to apply at the northern border of the zone of surveillance — that is, the line of wells and the 16th latitude — the instructions on the ways of dealing with the hostile elements that have been in force south of the Salal-Arada line.

Cheysson Visit, French-U.S. 'Bargain' Denounced

AB312145 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] After pushing its pawn Hissein Habre to sabotage the salutary initiative of the OAU and its direct engagement in the internal armed conflict in Chad, the Mitterrand regime has decided to send a delegation headed by Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, to Ndjamena, Tripoli, and Addis Ababa. This is a new sordid and dilatory maneuver on the part of the French imperialists, aimed at undermining the lasting and equitable solution to the Chadian crisis organized by the chairman and secretary general of the OAU.

It is well known that on the eve of 9 January, the French Government did everything through its venomous diplomacy to throw dust in the eyes of Chadian patriots and their friends throughout the continent. Using sweet words, it was able to convince various people that its troops in Chad were acting in the interest of peace and a negotiated settlement between Chadian parties. Yet we know today that the socialist government in France has made a spectacular turnaround in the Chadian conflict. After seeking in vain to manipulate the OAU to toe the French line in organizing a roundtable conference, French imperialism declared straightaway that the aim of the French military operation was to stop a so-called Libyan advance in Chad. In fact, had it not been for the test operation of the commando of the National Liberation Army [ANL], the real French position in Chad would not have been known. On their part, the Chadian patriots will never accept any solution to the Chadian conflict proposed by France, for have they not been forced to note that France has already violated its own political conduct in the Chadian crisis? Indeed, if today the Socialist Mitterrand who, imbued with the principles enunciated in 1966, has let loose French troops against Chadian patriots, then he does so under pressure from the United State of America. It is really a French-American bargain made behind the backs of the Chadian people, and under which France will have to intervene militarily in Chad in exchange for substantial American economic aid. Thus the revolutionary forces will be betrayed and lured into biting the French-American imperialist bait.

Therefore, for the Chadian patriots, accepting any peace initiative that does not come from the OAU or African countries is totally out of the question. This means that for us the harmful initiatives being made by Paris to organize a meeting of mercenaries is totally unacceptable both in its form and in its spirit. In any case, the French Government, considering the sides it has taken in the Chadian civil war, does not have the competence to play the role of a mediator. The Elysees should go ahead with its present military commitment [words indistinct]. Besides, all the hullabaloo orchestrated by the Mitterrand regime is far from impressing the ANL forces headed by the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] of Chad. The ANL is waiting firmly for the French imperialists on the field, and at the same time reminding them that 1984 is not 1900. It was at the beginning of this century that France took advantage of the superiority of its strength to impose its illegal laws. That has not been the case since the launching of the heroic liberation struggle in 1966 by the comrade founder of the Frolinat, Ibrahim Abbas Siddick, until today. Today, the Chadian people are sufficiently equipped and experienced to confront victoriously the imperialist and reactionary coalition.

French imperialism should not have a short memory of its defeat at Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam and in Algeria by the awakened and determined people of the Third World. Can French imperialism also easily forget its unfortunate attempt to dismember Nigeria by supporting the former Biafra? During the Nigerian civil war, the French neocolonialists went as far as equipping and encouraging the Biafran secessionists.

Could Nigeria today accept a French military presence at its doorstep? We do not believe so, convinced as we are that the

nationalist military regime currently in power in Nigeria will see this danger.

As for the National Liberation Army, it will continue with its intense struggle against the French occupational forces in a part of the Chadian fatherland. It will fight with the greatest determination against the imperialist and reactionary gang, and like the courageous ANL commando, they will be decorated with the Ibrahim Abbas Order, for services accomplished for the Chadian revolution. [words indistinct]

1,600 Zairian Soldiers, 'New Cannon Fodder,' Arrive

AB312229 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The imperialist and reactionary forces are continuing with determination their preparation for war. According to our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena, 1,600 Zairian soldiers who enplaned on 26 January at (Kimvale-Kili) arrived in Ndjamena. Several other Zairian soldiers also were loaded into planes at the Zairian airports of (Kutakoli, Kitona, and Mikasi) in the Shaba region for Chad. This operation took place in the presence of the so-called minister of defense of the FAN, Rotouang, and an American military adviser.

The 1,600 Zairian soldiers who are going to constitute new cannon fodder are meant to be sent to northern Chad, while other soldiers will be sent for the occupation of major urban centers in the southern part of the country in order to neutralize the green commandos of the National Liberation Army. Still, according to reliable sources of information this plan was prepared a long time ago to make the Addis Ababa conference fail. Finally, our permanent correspondent did not fail to stress the grave military situation prevailing in the southern part of the country.

ZAIRE

Reportage on Egyptian President Mubarak's Visit

Press Conference Held

NC311721 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 31 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has affirmed that Egypt and Zaire are linked by good and friendly relations.

At a press conference, Mubarak and Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko held on their arrival at the Marble Palace in Kinshasa, the Egyptian president stated that the first time he met President Mobutu was in Cairo at one of the airbases when he was the Air Force commander.

In response to a question by a Zaire television correspondent on what he expects from this visit, President Mubarak said:

We in Egypt have not forgotten President Mobutu's attitude toward Egypt before and after the October war, and that President Mobutu and Zaire have always supported Egypt at international meetings.

The president added: On this basis, the extent of our relationship and friendship with His Excellency President Mobutu becomes clear. He is a dear friend to us, as are the Zairian people, whom we respect and appreciate.

President Mubarak pointed out that President Mobutu visited Egypt three times before their first meeting, and added: We have therefore deemed it appropriate to visit the friendly African country of Zaire. I greet my brother President Mobutu and the great Zairian people who today gave us an unprecedentedly warm welcome.

Asked about the scope of Egypt's desire for cooperation with Zaire, President Mubarak said: Our cooperation with Zaire is unconditional and without limits. We agree on this and our relations are good. Cooperation between us can be in any mutually agreed upon area, and we have no reservations about cooperating with Zaire in any area.

Responding to a question on his reception of the ICO committee which invited Egypt to return to that organization, President Mubarak said: First of all, I welcomed the committee, which was headed by a dear friend of ours, President Sekou Toure, who was accompanied by friends from Iraq and Pakistan, as well as the ICO secretary general. He added: Since the ICO was established, and even before then, Egypt has committed itself to defending Islamic issues throughout the world. This is a commitment which will never end.

President Mubarak said: Egypt has been defending the cause of Jerusalem for a long time. We are still defending the cause of Jerusalem. We have a commitment toward Jerusalem. He also said: Egypt supports the Palestinian cause and the PLO in all international forums. In our speech at the United Nations, we very frankly dwelt on African issues, all international issues, and the Palestinian issue. We did the same at the ILO conference in Geneva, at the UNCTAD meeting in Belgrade, and during all our discussions in the United States and in other countries.

President Mubarak added: Egypt respects and adheres to the ICO Charter. Egypt has always paid a price for its positions and for its status in the Islamic nation, the African nation, and the Arab nation. We must be committed to these stands. Egypt has never and will never evade or abandon its commitments, and events have always proven this.

President Mubarak responded to a question on whether he thinks that the door is now open for Egypt's return to the Arab League by saying: If our brothers in the Arab League want Egypt to return, Egypt will not hesitate. Whether we return to the Arab League or not, we will never relinquish our commitment to Arab issues.

Mubarak added: We always honor our commitments, keep our word, and hasten to help our friends in international forums. This is the way Egypt always acts.

Egyptian correspondents asked President Mobutu about the role that Africa and Zaire can play regarding the Middle East issue, particularly with regard to the Palestinian crisis and the Leb-

anese war. Mobutu replied: Our position has never changed — in 1975 we declared our recognition of the PLO.

Mobutu added: During my recent talks with Israeli President Herzog, I categorically and officially declared my recognition of the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, and stressed the need for the PLO's participation in solving the Palestinian problem.

Regarding Zaire's stand on the Lebanese issue, Mobutu said Zaire maintains diplomatic relations with Lebanon and supports Lebanon during its present tribulations. He stressed the need for Lebanon to restore its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Regarding Zaire's stand on Israeli settlements, Mobutu emphasized that his country opposes the building of settlements in the same manner as the whole world opposes this.

Mubarak Dinner Speech

NC312238 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 31 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak delivered the following speech during the dinner banquet held in his honor tonight by Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko:

Brother and dear friend President Mobutu Sese Seko, dear brothers:

Allow me to express our appreciation for the genuine hospitality we have received since our arrival in your friendly country, with which we are linked by bonds of friendship, affection, and joint affiliation with our glorious continent. Our continent has a heroic history filled with struggles for power, dignity, and freedom, as well as struggles for a better world devoid of colonialism, exploitation, and domination — a world where cooperation and fraternity replace conflict and hatred, and where the banners of peace and progress fly.

Our meeting today, in this good land, embodies the feelings which the Egyptian people harbor for the brotherly people of Zaire. The people of Zaire fought a historic battle against imperialism and foreign hegemony. They managed to restore their independence and free will, to consolidate their intellectual originality, to maintain their civilization, and to establish their control over their resources and potential. This struggle — in which President Mobutu played a major role — was a landmark for the peoples of this great continent who decided to end the imperialist era, eliminate its traces, and move forward to a new era. In this new era, nations enjoy free will and direct their potential and resources toward attaining social and economic changes on behalf of their working masses.

We admire the accomplishments which the Zairian people have achieved during recent years on the road toward realizing their country's comprehensive development and promoting its national economy. We are sure that this great nation will continue its march on the road to progress and will make more progress in various areas.

Meanwhile, we welcome the growing relations between our countries in the economic, cultural, and scientific areas, because this creative cooperation is a basis for political understanding and solidarity between the African peoples, who are joined by united goals and destinies.

Dear brothers, we can never forget that we have brothers in the south of the continent who are still engaged in a bitter struggle against treacherous racist forces which are trying to stop the wheel of progress and impose the hegemony of the alien minority on the majority who are the rightful owners of the land.

The racist forces are oblivious to the fact that the people's will inevitably wins, and that the continuation of such conditions — which are contradictory to international law and to the consensus of free nations everywhere — is impossible.

The international community is required to implement Security Council Resolution No 435 on Namibia. Negligence in implementing this resolution or bargaining over it cannot be acceptable because the resolution's nonimplementation thus far is shaking confidence in the international organization and is consecrating the feeling that might alone can decide issues and protect right and legitimacy.

Meanwhile, we emphasize our solidarity with the fraternal people of Chad in their opposition to the foreign interventions that are threatening their territorial and national unity, as well as their vital interests, and paralyzing their ability to achieve security, stability, and progress. Therefore, we support the Chadian people's right to independent choice. We adhere to the need to resolve all existing problems within the framework of the African Continent. We adhere to the need to give the OAU the opportunity to continue its efforts in this respect and to overcome the gap that has arisen from the failure of the national conciliation conference which convened in Addis Ababa, because the future of the peoples must be put above all other considerations.

Mr President and Dear Brothers:

The struggling African nations were at the forefront of those who believed in the unity of the struggle launched by all Third World people against occupation, exploitation, and hegemony. These people struggle in order to lay the solid foundations for a just peace under which all people will seek to fulfill their legitimate aspirations.

This is why the African countries were unanimous in supporting the Arab countries' right to restore their occupied territories — including Arab Jerusalem — and the Palestinian people's right for self determination, for the establishment of their national entity on their land, and for the maintenance of their own identity and their tremendous cultural heritage.

History has taught us that a stable peace is a peace which is based on right and justice and which satisfies the people involved — those people who are the main beneficiaries of peace and prosperity.

The Middle East, which has firm links with the African Continent, is witnessing events that threaten the peace process and

hamper the sincere efforts we are exerting to end the state of war between Israel and its neighbors, and to turn a new page in the area's history. These events are represented by the continued Israeli occupation of Lebanon, the repressive practices in the West Bank and Gaza, and the continued establishment of settlements on Arab land — actions which contradict the provisions of international law and Israel's commitments according to the Geneva agreement. In addition to all this there is the nonrecognition of the Palestinian people's basic rights and the refusal to negotiate with their legitimate representatives who have responded to the requirements of peace. Such a position conflicts with the commitment by all UN member states to solve their disputes through peaceful means.

We expect from friendly Zaire a firm position in support of the Palestinian people's legitimate and national rights, rejecting the policies and practices that are against peace, supporting the PLO, and calling for the respect of the right of all the parties to live in peace and safety removed from violence and destruction. This is the responsibility of all of us and our basic commitment in a world in which challenges are increasing and dangers are escalating.

My brother friends: We look forward to strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and peoples in all areas within the framework of our joint endeavors to strengthen interaction and unity among all the African people.

Allow me to ask you to stand in salutation for the dear brother and friend, President Mobutu Sese Seko, in salutation of all the sons of the fraternal Zairian people, and the strong friendship between our two glorious peoples.

Relations With Egypt Reviewed

AB311520 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1800 GMT 30 Jan 84

[AZAP Commentary: "Solidarity and Fruitful Cooperation"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 30 Jan (AZAP) — The relations between Zaire and Egypt and their respective peoples are important. They are marked by solidarity and total trust, and they continue to be developed further thanks to the esteem and friendship which Presidents Mobutu and Mubarak have for one other. In the sphere of foregin policy, the two heads of state want African problems to be solved by Africans themselves, and they uphold the policy of nonalignment.

The solidarity between Zaire and Egypt has been demonstrated on several occasions through mutual assistance or support in hard times in the history of the Zairian and Egyptian peoples.

This was particularly evident in 1973 during the Israeli-Egyptian war and in 1977 and 1978 during the two wars in the Shaba region. Also, Zaire supports Egypt's cause unreservedly. Proof of this is the fact that Zaire has never stopped supporting the peace process in the Middle East. From the late President as-Sadat's initiative, launched in November 1977, to the Camp David Accords and the present initiatives aimed at settling the Arab-Israeli conflict and restoring a fair and global peace in the Middle East, Zaire and Egypt hold the view that the settlement of that conflict depends upon an equitable solution to the Palestinian question.

For its part, Egypt has always supported Zaire — through authoritative channels — in Zaire's trying times with the view of safeguarding its territorial integrity and in its struggle against international subversion.

Both countries hold consultations regularly in order to discuss events likely to jeopardize the stability of states and the security of Africa. Similarly, Cairo and Kinshasa share the same views on international political events.

The relations of cooperation between Zaire and Egypt, which are long-standing relations, have remained excellent. They were established in the wake of Zaire's independence in 1960. Since then, the ties between Zaire and Egypt have developed in various fields. Egypt has established an embassy in the Zairian capital, while Zaire has an embassy in Cairo. It is noteworthy that Egypt is the only African country to have a naval and Air Force attache in Kinshasa.

These excellent relations have been marked since their establishment by cooperation in various sectors. A protocol on general cooperation in the economic, commercial, technical, and cultural sectors was signed in Cairo on 22 February 1974 and ratified by the two countries in 1976.

Earlier, the bilateral cooperation was governed by two agreements including an agreement on air traffic signed in Kinshasa on 3 July 1964 and a trade agreement signed in Kinshasa on 15 June 1968 and ratified by the two countries on 24 August 1976 replacing the 1964 agreement.

The concrete sign of that trade agreement is the presence in Kinshasa of the Egyptian import-export establishment El Nasr since 1965. This state enterprise is charged with promoting commercial exchanges between the two countries.

Within the framework of these exchanges, it should be pointed out that Egypt, which got into the metallurgy industry just recently with only small mineral resources, banks on Zaire as a reliable supplier of nonferrous metals. Zaire also exports tropical vegetable products to Egypt.

Many products, especially drugs, clothes, and food items, which Zaire imports from non-African countries, would be five to six times cheaper if they were imported from Egypt, it is believed at the commercial section of the Egyptian Embassy in Kinshasa. It is reported that the crux of the matter is that economic operators are not well enough informed about exchange possibilities in this area.

Within this framework, the Egyptian Embassy has prepared a project for the creation of a Zaire-Egyptian chamber of commerce. This will provide an extensive exchange of information and facilitate the trade relations between the two countries. Egypt is expecting Zaire's advice on this point through the National Association of Zairian Enterprises.

There is a legal framework governing the bilateral cooperation. Wanting to develop further their bilateral cooperation, the two countries have established a Grand Joint Commission which held its second session in June 1983, and which is charged with assessing the progress made so far and pinpointing the loopholes in order to find ways and means of plugging them.

In this connection, during the second session which was held in Cairo from 18 to 20 June 1983, the two sides expressed satisfaction over their identical views on all issues examined and pledged their determination to strengthen and to give impetus to their cooperation in the interest of the Zairian and Egyptian peoples in accordance with political will expressed on several occasions by Presidents Mobutu and Mubarak.

In this regard, the two delegations agreed on ways and means to give considerable substance to the agreements signed in May 1980 in Kinshasa on the occasion of the first session of the Joint Commission.

In June 1983 in Cairo, the leaders of the two delegations exchanged the ratifying documents of these agreements in the fields of air traffic and trade, cultural, technical, and scientific cooperation, as well as tourism and defense.

The leader of the Zairian delegation also took the opportunity to sign an agreement with the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation in Africa. The mutual esteem and trust between the two countries and between their respective peoples have given rise to Egyptian private initiatives which are supplementing their government's action in various fields. It is in this context that the "[word indistinct] polyclinic" was recently opened in Kinshasa with an Egyptian doctor placing his medical skills at Zaire's service. Egypt has also supplied us with agricultural experts.

Cooperation in training is evident in the agricultural and military areas. In fact, Egypt receives a number of Zairians every year for training or further training at the Egyptian International Center for Agriculture, (CEIA).

Officers of the Zairian Armed Forces are being trained in Egypt side by side with their Egyptian military brothers and several visits have been exchanged at the highest levels of the two armies within the framework of military cooperation.

In the field of culture, the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY (MENA) and AZAP signed a cooperation agreement in Cairo in 1983 concerning principally the exchange of information.

According to sources from the Egyptian Embassy in Kinshasa, Egypt attaches "great importance" to this agreement for a greater knowledge of the realities of the two countries.

In addition, a certain number of Zairian students attend school at El-Azhar, the Muslim university in Cairo, at the rate of 4 persons per year.

Finally, it must be noted that Zaire and Egypt are two countries that want to develop, strengthen, and diversify their economic cooperation along the lines of the Lagos and Caracas plans of action in economic matters as recommended by the 1980 African economic summit and the Nonaligned summit respectively.

GAMBIA

Two More Coup Accusees Given Death Sentences

AB010850 Paris AFP in English 0710 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Banjul, Feb 1 (AFP) — The special court trying the men charged with responsibility for the failed coup d'etat attempt in Gambia on July 30, 1981, has sentenced two more people to death and five to jail sentences ranging from 10 to 15 years. The latest sentences bring to 31 the number of men condemned to death by the special court. Twenty-seven of the sentences have been upheld by an appeals court, but none has yet been carried out.

GHANA

Former Party Official Returns From Exile

AB010830 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Alhaji (Idrisu Sabia), who was the northern regional chairman of the disbanded People's National Party, has reported himself to the National Investigations Committee on his return from Ouagadougou and Lagos where he lived in exile after the 31 December revolution for fear of victimization. Alhaji (Sabia) said he decided to pay heed to the PNDC's [Provisional National Defense Council] call to all Ghanaians in exile to return home to contribute their quota to the ongoing national reconstruction. The committee had given him a safe-conduct document to enable him to settle down to serious farming activity at Daboya in the northern region as he did until he went into exile.

GUINEA

Sekou Toure Returns From ICO Session 31 Jan

AB312221 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The supreme servant of the people, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, returned to Conakry this afternoon from Rabat. It will be recalled that President Ahmed Sekou Toure led the ICO delegation to Cairo to examine with the Egyptian authorities the issue of the reintegration of Egypt into the organization.

IVORY COAST

Perez de Cuellar, Ake Dinner Speeches Reported

AB312045 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who has been in our country since Sunday, was in Abidjan yesterday after a short stay in Yamoussoukro where he was received by the head of state. He visited several personages before being the guest at a dinner offered by the government in the evening. It was the occasion for Mr Simeon Ake, our minister of foreign affairs, to review international politics and to define our country's positions with respect to the current conflicts that plague our continent and the world. He paid tribute to the United Nations for what it is doing for the Ivory Coast and for the search for peace and justice.

[Begin Ake recording] The vast program being undertaken in this country in the fields of agricultural and rural development, education and professional training, disease control, external trade and industrial promotion, animal production development, maritime transport and telecommunications improvement, public administration improvement, as well as the human and material means placed at our disposal, provide an effective and efficient contribution to the development of the Ivory Coast in these fields — fields that it considers priority areas.

The interdependence of the projects of the UN system in relation to those others [words indistinct] further proves to us the value of UN action. Your presence among us, Mr Secretary General, is a joyous opportunity for me to pay a deserved tribute to the important job done to the credit of all UN activities in the Ivory Coast since its independence. The job done so far by the United Nations Organization, its Secretariat, and its specialized agencies is highly positive. Just like all human enterprises, it has its weaknesses, but it has the merit of existing and it is irreplaceable. In the face of rising perils resulting from the ambitions and egotism of nations, the United Nations must, in the words of President Houphouet-Boigny, serve as the ideal forum and the diplomatic instrument for negotiation among all states, the essential link of human solidarity and international cooperation in the economic, commercial, sociocultural, and scientific fields, (the highest organ) responsible for safeguarding human rights, freedom, and peace. [end Ake recording]

In reply to Mr Simeon Ake, the UN secretary general said that the organization of which he is the secretary general appreciates these words spoken on behalf of the Ivory Coast at a time when the world is going through both political and economic crises. Mr Perez de Cuellar thanked the Ivory Coast for the important role it plays in the community of nations.

[Begin Perez de Cuellar recording] The Ivory Coast is one of the founding members of the OAU. It has played a crucial role in the gradual integration of the economies of west African countries. President Houphouet-Boigny is the father of the Ivorian nation, a nation which has duly won its place within the council of nations with all merited honors and which has every reason for hope. May the efforts of the peoples of Africa continue relentlessly at a time when they are more than ever indispensable and at a time when international cooperation is developing both in the economic and political areas. Our survival is at stake, our future is at stake, and our happiness is at stake.

This is the right occasion for me to thank the Ivorian Government for its constant support for UN activities and its ever-renewed attachment to the principles of the UN Charter. This has been for me a deep source of encouragement in my efforts for peace and concord among nations that is demonstrated today by the excellent working relations that exist between me and Ambassador Essy Amara, Ivory Coast's permanent representative. [end Perez de Cuellar recording]

During his third and the last day of his visit to the Ivory Coast, the UN secretary general will visit the African Development Bank and will later go to the Presidential Palace where he will meet with the minister of maritime affairs before going to Abidjan harbor and visiting the Abidjan Academy of Maritime Sciences. Mr Perez de Cuellar leaves Abidjan at about 1500.

NIGERIA

Delegation To Take Message to Mengistu on Chad

AB010740 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A three-man Nigerian delegation from the Ministry of External Affairs left Lagos yesterday for Ethiopia to deliver a message from the head of state to the OAU chairman, Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam. The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, told NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA that the issue involved is Chad. Dr Gambari restated Nigeria's concern over the worsening situation in Chad (?which in effect) creates social and economic problems for Nigeria [words indistinct].

Journalist Detained for Questioning in Kano

AB312222 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government has clarified issues in connection with the detention of Mallam Haruna Adamu, the editorial consultant of *THE PUNCH* group of newspapers. The government pointed out that the journalist was not being detained in connection with any newspaper article or report. In a statement signed by the chief press secretary to the head of state, Alhaji Wada Maiga, the administration pointed out that Mallam Haruna Adamu was being detained in Kano because the matter over which he was being questioned affected the Kano State Government. The statement noted that Mallam Haruna Adamu was a public officer under the defunct civilian government in Kano, adding that other public officers in the state were also being questioned by security agents.

TOGO

OAU's Onu Meets With President Eyadema

AB302146 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Peter Onu, acting secretary general of the OAU was received in audience this morning by the head of state. The two men discussed at length issues concerning Africa. After his audience Peter Onu gave details of his conversation with General Eyadema:

[Begin Onu recording in English fading into French translation] I have not had the opportunity of coming to see the head of state of Togo, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, a personal friend of mine; and as head of state, his wisdom has always benefited the OAU. [sentence as heard in English]

[Question from unidentified reporter] Mr Secretary General, the current burning issue in Africa is, naturally, the problems of Chad and Western Sahara, which should be solved before the next OAU summit in Conakry; but unfortunately the first attempts at solving these problems have failed. Is the OAU finding other ways of solving these issue, or has the OAU given up?

[Onu] The OAU recognizes the fact that these two problems which you have mentioned — the problem of Chad and the problem of Western Sahara — are very important problems. Of course, we have problems in Namibia also that have not as yet been resolved. But to come to these two problems: Although attempts to solve these conflicts have not as yet succeeded, as an African organization and as Africans we can never give up trying because first attempts have failed. We should redouble our efforts and take new initiatives in both Chad and Western Sahara. Some heads of state have been making individual efforts; there are also some collective efforts here and there to solve these problems. I think the OAU should take up its responsibilities and not give up.

[Question] The UN secretary general, currently touring West Africa, said only the day before yesterday that the United Nations is ready to help the OAU to solve some problems provided it is asked to do so. Mr OAU Secretary General, what do you think of this statement?

[Onu] As you know, every year the OAU passes a resolution of cooperation between it and the United Nations. Therefore, the UN secretary general's statement is only a confirmation of the existence of such a cooperation. I am sure that if the need arises for the OAU to ask for help on Western Sahara and Chad from the United Nations, it will definitely agree to assist, as it has always done in the past. [end recording]

SFRY Trade Minister Bojanic Arrives for Talks

AB302230 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Milenko Bojanic, Yugoslav minister of foreign trade, and his delegation arrived in Lome yesterday. This afternoon he met with Togolese businessmen at the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Togo. The meeting took place in the presence of Barry Barque, member of the Political Bureau of the Rally of the Togolese People [RPT] and minister of public works, mines, energy and hydraulic resources; and Pahi Djalla, member of the RPT Central Committee and minister of commerce and transport. Welcoming the Yugoslav delegation, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Togo, Mr Koffi (Godzo), expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries will enable trade and industries, especially the small and medium-sized industries, to improve their performance.

On his part, Minister Bojanic said he hopes to exchange views with entrepreneurs of our country in order to know their views on how to improve trade.

Reportage on SADCC Meeting Opening in Lusaka 2 Feb

Delegations' Arrival Noted

MB311945 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] A three-man Australian delegation headed by Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Defense and Foreign Affairs (William Morrison) arrived in Lusaka today to attend the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference [SADCC] opening on Thursday. Another delegation from Canada led by Senator (Bernard Graham) is set to attend tte SADCC Conference. The Danish team, led by ambassador to Zimbabwe (Neils Larson), is also among the latest arrivals, and three of the seven American delegates arrived this morning ahead of delegation leader (Philip Demboard), who is due to arrive tomorrow. His Excellency President Kaunda is expected to officially open the conference, at which donor countries will pledge their aid to SADCC.

Meanwhile a 3-man delegation from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO, arrived this afternoon for the SADCC conference. It includes assistant FAO Director General Jacob Daves.

Zimbabwe Minister Criticizes Donors

MB010734 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The minister of finance, economic planning, and development, Comrade Bernard Chidzero, has said the would-be donors should not expect recipients to change their ideologies because of aid given. Speaking to the Southern African Development and Coordination Conference [SADCC] Council of Ministers in Lusaka yesterday, Comrade Chidzero said those countries which want to support SADCC projects should do so but leave the philosophies of the recipients alone. He was giving a vote of thanks to Swaziland, the coordinating country for manpower development, which had given a detailed report on the implementation of projects agreed to in Maputo last year.

Kaunda, Botswana's Mmusi Meet

MB010944 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has expressed optimism that the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] donor meeting, which opens in Lusaka tomorrow, will succeed. Speaking when Botswana Vice President Mr Peter Mmusi called on him at State House, Dr Kaunda said the conference was a well-thought approach towards the seriousness of the situation in the area. Earlier, Mr Mmusi informed the president that the Council of Ministers' meeting at Mulungushi Hall was going smoothly, and nearly every item had been tackled. Mr Mmusi said he told the president that they had informed the donors that what SADCC countries needed was the know-how to have the ability to produce food.

The Council of Ministers at the annual consultative conference of SADCC met yesterday to finalize the recommended agenda for their meeting, which will be opened officially by President Kaunda tomorrow. Briefing the press on the deliberations of the Council, SADCC Executive Secretary Mr Arthur Blumeris said the agenda drawn up by the Standing Committee was useful and attractive. Mr Blumeris said the agenda related to matters concerning progress for the regional sectors. The agenda also included a program for meeting SADCC partners. This group is, among others, represented by ministers from the EEC.

The executive secretary reiterated that the meeting will focus on drought, which has reduced food production in the region. He, however, noted that there was still hope for fair harvests in the region if the rainfall in the rest of the season will be adequate. Mr Blumeris said he was heartened with the high level of delegations from partners and other interested international organizations.

The international community of non-governmental organizations has decided to carry out a program of education and information to promote wide understanding and support for the aims of SADCC member countries. The non-governmental bodies have established information channels among their members to facilitate the necessary flow of information, including a circular information letter on SADCC. The statement said these efforts among the general public, churches, trade unions, political parties, and development agencies will emphasize the economic and political importance of SADCC to the region of southern Africa. The agencies pledged to help SADCC and associate themselves with the SADCC goals to promote popular welfare, justice, and peace in the region, and pursue the economic liberation and integrated development in the region.

ANGOLA

FRG Delegation Arrives; Meeting With Jorge Set

MB010744 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Three members of parliament from the Social Democratic Party of the Federal Republic of Germany arrived in Luanda last evening for a 3-day visit to our country. This morning, the German delegates will hold a meeting with Comrade Paulo Teixeira Jorge, our country's foreign minister, who will discuss the situation in the southern part of the African Continent. Other Angolan officials will brief the delegation on the war situation in the southern part of the People's Republic of Angola and the consequences of the South African aggression.

MADAGASCAR

Ratsiraka Denies Soviets Refurbishing Naval Base

AB311351 Paris AFP in English 1101 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Antananarivo, Jan 31 (AFP) — President Didier Ratsiraka has denied reports that the Soviet Union was refurbishing for its own use the former naval base of Diego Suarez in northern Madagascar.

In an interview here he said that his leftist government would never allow either Soviet or United States warships to use Diego Suarez, now called Antsiranana.

President Ratsiraka was speaking within a week of a Joint Malagasy-Soviet Economic Commission (?meeting) here, and a visit by French foreign aid minister Christian Nucci. "Soviet and French aid are complementary," he said, but he expressed distrust of the United States.

The Malagasy leader said that for example his government had [words indistinct] planes were much cheaper than the French Mirage, he noted, but on the other hand he has asked France for vehicles and logistic support to combat rural banditry.

Moscow had helped a large number of projects to the tune of 300 million dollars since 1980, while French aid amounted to 250 million dollars in the past three years. "Both are useful," President Ratsiraka said.

He condemned U.S. actions such as the invasion of Grenada, but said U.S. aid for a planned new steel plant would be welcome.

Three U.S. companies are currently engaged in prospecting for oil off Madagascar's coast.

At the end of the Malagasy-Soviet meeting last weekend President Ratsiraka said Moscow did not make any demands on Madagascar. "Our cooperation is healthy, is not limited to the military field and does not go beyond our own wishes," he added.

Recent Soviet aid to Madagascar, apart from the MIG-21's and a number of tanks, includes civil transport aircraft, tractors, road-building, mineral prospecting and agricultural production, President Ratsiraka noted.

Mr. Nucci told the president yesterday that France would continue to make a special effort to help Madagascar, its former colony. But he said that everything could not be done at once.

President Ratsiraka told journalists last night that Madagascar was not far from reaching self-sufficiency in food, despite its current difficulties and the need to import produce such as rice, wheat and oil. Self-sufficiency was one aspect of economic development, along with exporting and producing, which Madagascar had to attack with vigour, President Ratsiraka said.

MOZAMBIQUE

Cuban Official Carries Message to Chissano

MB010949 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano received in Maputo yesterday Oscar Oramas, the Cuban deputy foreign minister. On the occasion, the Cuban official handed a letter from Isidoro Malmierca, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Cuba, to his Mozambican counterpart. This information was disclosed in today's edition of *NOTICIAS* newspaper.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Demands Direct Talks With RSA on Cease-fire

MB311523 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1514 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] London, Jan 31, SAPA — SWAPO today demanded face-to-face talks with the South African Government about a ceasefire in SWA/Namibia and said it would be "a mockery" to speak to the territory's internal leaders.

Although the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, did not specifically say in Cape Town today that his government would not meet across the table with SWAPO, the response in a SWAPO statement issued in London was:

"Botha's announcement that they are once again ruling out direct talks with SWAPO on the implementation of Resolution 435 (the UN plan for the territory's independence) is a poor attempt at the worn-out pretense that responsibility for their illegal occupation of Namibia no longer lies with them. It would be a mockery of the concept of negotiations for us to speak to their puppets rather than those who pull the strings."

The statement, issued by SWAPO's West European information officer, Mr Peter Manning, said:

"It is with the South African regime, the illegal occupiers of our country, that we are in armed conflict. It is imperative, therefore, that any discussions on the ceasefire as the first essential step implementing Resolution 435 be with a delegation from the racist South African regime, with the full authority to negotiate seriously on the behalf of that regime. Botha knows this, and anything short of such an arrangement indicates their hypocrisy and constitutes a refusal to even seriously contemplate implementing Resolution 435.

While the SWAPO statement did not directly state how it would respond to a disengagement of South African forces, it apparently re-emphasised the vital difference between itself and the South African Government over a ceasefire — that while the government is prepared to "disengage" its forces, SWAPO will not consider a ceasefire unless it is the first step in the implementation of the UN plan, which the government will not agree to until Cuban forces quit Angola.

The SWAPO statement added that any attempt by the South African Government to set up another "so-called interim government" was doomed to failure "as did their puppet regime that collapsed more than a year ago amid chaos and corruption."

It concluded: "SWAPO of Namibia strongly and emphatically condemns these moves by Pretoria and calls on the UN Security Council to do likewise and act decisively to end racist South Africa's persistent refusal to withdraw from Namibia and implement Resolution 435. Comrade President Sam Nujoma emphasised just two days ago that there can be no lasting solution to the problems of Namibia unless there is a ceasefire in terms of Resolution 435 and that that resolution is implemented."

SOUTH AFRICA

Reactions to Prime Minister's Press Conference

MB010620 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, says the withdrawal of South African forces from Angola is in preparation of a cease-fire. Mr Botha said at a news conference in Cape Town that the time schedule for the eventual implementation of a cease-fire would depend on the cooperation of other parties involved. Mr Botha announced earlier during the no-confidence debate in the assembly that South Africa began withdrawing its forces from Angola yesterday. He said the government's decision to implement its offer of a cease-fire had been taken on the basis of assurances received from the United States. At the news conference, he was not willing to supply details of the assurances but said he was satisfied with them.

Mr Botha said South Africa still agreed with the United States that the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola was a prerequisite for the implementation of UN Resolution 435. He said South Africa would monitor the response to the withdrawal, but that actions such as bringing in new forces, arming for new attacks, activities leading to border crossings and attacks on civilians would be regarded as exploitation of the situation. He was optimistic, however, and was awaiting positive reaction.

Mr Botha said he told representatives of Western countries that there should be a commitment on their part to help alleviate the heavy financial burden borne by South Africa in South-West Africa. South Africa could not be expected to carry the burden alone while the United Nations took steps to apply boycotts against South Africa. Angola and the Soviet Union were trying to organize animosity against South Africa, and the West was dissatisfied with the Republic.

The prime minister said South Africa was not prepared to negotiate with SWAPO alone in trying to find a settlement in South-West Africa. SWAPO was not the sole representative of the people of South-West Africa but only one of the parties concerned. South Africa would not stand in the way of a meeting between the administrator-general of South-West Africa and SWAPO. However, it should be part of a multiparty constitutional talks on the territory's future.

In his reaction to the prime minister's statement in the Assembly that, if given a choice, he would give priority to South Africa's interests above those of South-West Africa, the chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr Dirk Mudge, said it was self-evident that South Africa would see to its own interests first. Mr Mudge said at a news conference in Windhoek that he believed that South Africa would not stop its financial aid to South-West Africa but that South Africa did not want to bear the financial burden alone.

The Damara leader, Mr Justus Garoeb, said South Africa was only one of the countries involved in the South-West Africa issue and that it was unreasonable to expect that it alone should contribute financially. This meant that South-West Africa was linked only to South Africa and that this should not be the case. The leader of the SWAPO Democrats, Mr Andreas Shipanga, said the multiparty conference was not planning the institution of an interim government for South-West Africa at present.

SWAPO's European representative, Mr (Shapuo Kaukongwa), said in an interview with the BBC that South Africa's offer of a troop withdrawal from Angola was merely a bilateral agreement between South Africa and Angola. He said it was important to SWAPO that South Africa agreed to direct negotiations about South-West Africa.

The administrator-general of South-West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said in Windhoek that South Africa's troop withdrawal and the multiparty conference's willingness to accept greater responsibility were historic events which created great challenges. He said a move had hopefully been made toward the end of the war and the end of a nonrepresentative central government.

The New Republic Party has welcomed the prime minister's announcement concerning Angola and South-West Africa, and it has pledged to support him. The party's foreign affairs spokesman, Mr Brian Page, says in a statement issued in Cape Town that the party regards the announcement as a dramatic step toward normalizing relations between South Africa and its neighbors. It is seen, furthermore, as a positive indication to the international community of South Africa's sincerity in the search for peaceful and lasting solutions.

U.S. 'Assurances' Behind Disengagement

MB311648 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1631 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Cape Town, January 31, SAPA — Assurances by the United States gave rise to the decision to disengage South Africa's troops in southern Angola, the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, said today. He elaborated on his announcement of the disengagement in Parliament earlier today at a special press conference in Cape Town this afternoon.

The disengagement was in preparation for a possible ceasefire and followed the undertaking to withdraw the main forces which took part in South Africa's incursion into the Angolan operational area last December. "Since then, after assurances received from the United States, we decided it was necessary to take steps in preparation for a ceasefire," Mr Botha said.

"These are preparatory steps to have a ceasefire if other parties cooperate." If the ceasefire came into effect, steps would have to be taken to monitor the situation and ensure that SWAPO did not take advantage of it to bring in new forces or arm itself for renewed attacks on SWA/Namibia.

Mr Botha said steps were being taken to implement a ceasefire also "in the event of some of our troops being left in southern parts of Angola."

The prime minster was asked whether he had any definite indications that the ceasefire offer might meet with success. "I am an optimist and believe in building rather than destroying. I

have made it plain that I am working for peace, stability and cooperation. It is no use prophesying until we are convinced that the other parties are acting in the same spirit as we are."

South Africa was not prepared to talk to SWAPO alone but thought it fit and in the interest of all parties concerned to take part in constitutional talks.

Elaborating on his warnings in Parliament regarding the prohibitive cost of maintaining SWA/Namibia, he said South Africa was committed to defending the territory for as long as its people wanted this. "But we have told the West that while the United Nations was taking steps to boycott us, while the West was dissatisfied with us and the Soviets and Angola were mobilising animosity against us, we could not be expected to carry the burden of keeping the territory financially intact on our own."

The withdrawal of troops would not effect the Ruacana hydro-electrical installations, the prime minsiter said.

SWAPO Reportedly Rejects Offer

MB311640 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1618 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Cape Town, Jan 31, SAPA — The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, today declined to react to a Radio Tanzania report that the SWAPO leader, Mr Sam Nujoma, had rejected outright his offer of a disengagement of South African forces in Angola.

Speaking at a press conference following his announcement of the disengagement in the Assembly today, Mr Botha said he did not know where the report emanated from, nor what its content was and that he was therefore not prepared to comment.

He said he was unaware that Mr Nujoma was operating "in that area" and that President Nyerere of Tanzania had anything to do with the negotiations.

According to Radio Tanzania, Mr Nujoma rejected the offer by Mr Botha and said he dismissed the American initiative as a "childish ploy intended to hoodwink the people of Namibia."

According to a report from London, a statement issued by SWAPO today rejected the offer and demanded face-to-face talks with the South African Government, saying that it was a mockery to talk to the territory's internal leaders.

According to the report, Mr Botha had in his speech today ruled out talks with SWAPO, but Mr Botha in fact made no direct reference to such talks.

At his press conference, Mr Botha said in response to a question that the South African Government would have no objection to talks between SWAPO and the SWA/Namibian internal parties.

"But, SWAPO is not the sole representative of South-West Africa," Mr Botha said.

Prime Minister Urges Upgrading Intelligence Forces

MB311555 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister P.W. Botha, speaking in the Assembly, said that South Africa dared not slacken in reinforcing what he termed its information family, as it needed to know where the enemy was trying to penetrate. This family included the State Security Council, national and military intelligence, the police, and certain government departments. South Africa's intelligence servece was becoming more and more effective and accordingly anti-South African spies were being detected more efficiently than ever before. However, he would not allow the work of the security services to be made public so that it might be kicked around, as he put it.

The prime minister said the country dared not relax its security services. The preparedness of the police and the SADF had to be upgraded continuously and their equipment modernized. He said those belittling the security forces or making them suspect were playing into the hands of the enemy. Mr Botha said he rejected with contempt any effort to create the impression that the relationship between the security forces and South Africa's diplomatic corps was not sound.

Local Government Council Holds First Meeting

MB310931 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 31 Jan 84 p 2

[*MAIL* Correspondent]

[Excerpt] Cape Town — The new statutory Council for the Coordination of Local Government — a body which will report to the government on changes to implement under the new constitutional dispensation on local government level — met for the first time yesterday.

The meeting, held in the Civic Centre, Cape Town, was opened by the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, who is chairman of the new body. The meeting was a "historic milestone in South Africa's constitutional development", Mr Heunis said. "This council creates an opportunity for whites, Coloureds and Indians to consult with each other on matters of common concern," he said.

Mr Heunis said the council would be an advisory body with no executive powers and would not detract from the functions of any existing bodies, including the four provincial administrations and the United Municipal Executive. "The council can also advise on matters which affect local government, but which fall under the jurisdiction of another minister of government department, like housing, transportation and health."

Mr Heunis said the statutory body could be seen as "the highest forum for the discussion of all local government matters." It provided a direct communication link between the central, provincial and local government institutions and between the three population groups represented on the council.

"According to the act, the coordinating council can undertake investigations into local government matters with my approval," Mr Heunis said. The council would be split into six committees, Mr Heunis said.

Among other things, the committees would investigate:

Municipal electoral qualifications — to embody qualifications and disqualifications for municipal voters and candidates for all three population groups.

Geographical areas of jurisdiction — readjust areas of jurisdiction and look into the procedure for doing so, the criteria that should be used, the position of areas which do not have a group character and the possible inclusion of peri-urban areas.

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Dlamini Asks for International Aid

MB312030 Mbabane Domestic Television in Siswati 1815 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Message from the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi Dlamini, on 31 January — recorded]

[Text] I wish to take this opportunity, in the name of the Swazi rulers, to announce to the nation that in all this devastating rain that has fallen on Swaziland — which we call a deluge — no one should attempt to cross any river which is flooded. Just as the radio announcers announced yesterday that the rivers are flooded, even today I feel it my duty to stress that no one should attempt to cross any river that is flooded. Everyone on one side of a river, whether a scholar, a worker on his way to work, or someone on the way to the shops, must wait until the river has subsided before crossing and continuing on his journey to his destination. I say this, my countrymen, due to the number of lives already lost in attempts to cross flooded rivers. Many lives have been lost.

Countrymen, what prevails in the country is nothing but a lot of heartache, even though we do want rain to fall. Unfortunately, countrymen, things have not occurred as we wished. I therefore reiterate: Heed this warning and let no one cross any river that is overflowing. Do not cross any river if you cannot see the bottom. Do not use your leg as a measuring stick, but a stick. Those who use their legs as measuring sticks may get carried away by the river and not reach their destination. Countrymen, this is an urgent announcement that has to reach every part of Swaziland, even those who do not have access to radios, so let them know of this, and let your relatives know.

Countrymen, we are aware that a lot of homes and buildings have been washed away, and also many people in those homes. It is not only those living near rivers, but even those living a distance away from them, especially in the rural area, who have had their homes collapse on them. In some instances people have been crushed by trees. Countrymen, we sympathize with all those who have lost their relatives and pray to God to look after them, whichever way they have gone. It was not the wish of the Swazi nation, but God made it happen in this manner. God has given us beautiful rain, rain we wanted. Unfortunately, even though it is good, the bad also happens where some lose their lives. We hope, countrymen, that you too will be comforted in the name of the Almighty. We will continue bemoaning the floods. None of us knew that all the rivers would flood. Some died in their sleep when they were swept away, oblivious to the fact that the rivers were overflowing their banks.

Countrymen, those close to the river must hurriedly move to higher ground, where they will be safe from the rivers. It is not known for how long the rivers will overflow. It could take a week or some days. It has also become apparent, countrymen, that many bridges over all the rivers in Swaziland have been swept away, and that many of the roads in the country have been washed away, not to mention the Lusutfu, Mkhondzo, Ngwavuma, Lusushwana, and the Nkomazi roads, from Mlomati right down to Hlathikulu. All of the roads have been damaged and are impossible, not to mention train bridges, which have also been swept away. We don't know how and when we are going to reconstruct the railroads and roads, as we all know how expensive they are.

I therefore appeal to you, my dearest Swazi people, that no one — man, woman, or child — attempt to cross any river. School children on your way to school, wait for the river to subside before crossing; the teachers will wait for your arrival. Even you workers, your employers will wait for your arrival. You only have to tell them you were held up by the floods and that you could not make it to work on time. This then means that no one will be dismissed from work or school because of the rains. You will arrive at your destinations whenever the floods have subsided and be accepted with open arms by those in authority. This also goes for those at schools. Everybody will be waited for, be it at school or work. We do not want to hear of any more drownings for these reasons.

Countrymen, I believe this is important. Let the whole nation pull together. Those facing hardship must be helped. Those who no longer have homes must be helped by their neighbors. Even the government will take steps in that direction. As it is, we already have a committee set up to survey the country and assess the damage. They will begin today and will report back to government.

We therefore appeal to all our friends and neighbors and those abroad to assist us with tents, blankets, medicine, and food. We appeal to the entire international community of God's world to assist us. We do not discriminate against any color or nation, as long as they can assist us. As it is, we don't know where we will get the money from to mend this damage. This means that all of our work will come to a standstill unless we get aid from our friends, because we in Swaziland do not have many assets to assist us in our sufferings. We need assistance from both the international and the Swazi community in this plight we are in.

We have also heard that our neighbors down in Mozambique are also facing the same hardships we are in. They too have lost many lives. We are not the only ones. We are not sure if our other neighbors are also facing the same hardships as we are, but we are sure of the Mozambicans' plight.

Countrymen, I extend this plea to you in Swaziland and to our neighbors, those who can assist us. We hope that our friends will give us the little they have as aid. You in Swaziland, give the needy as much assistance as possible. Accommodate them and help each other, as everyone is in this predicament.

We stress to those closest to the rivers, move away from the rivers onto higher ground until the rivers subside. Countrymen, this is what we have decided to announce to you. And for those who have lost relatives in these floods, our condolences are with you. Nevertheless, we thank God for what he has given us, so that even tomorrow he will give to us when we ask for something.

In the name of the King, countrymen, let me close by once again warning you against crossing any river. Thank you countrymen. All hail!

Finance Minister Leaves for SADCC Conference

MB010915 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 1 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] The principal secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Mr Ray Strydom, has announced that the minister for finance, Dr Sishayi Nxumalo, left the country yesterday for Lusaka, Zambia to attend the SADCC conference with donor countries. Dr Nxumalo is leading a government delegation of officials which left the country last week for preliminary discussions prior to the ministerial meeting. Advance delegation is led by the principal secretary for commerce and economic planning, Mr Vusi Sikhondze.

The meeting is expected to discuss several Swazi projects and these projects will be presented to the donor conference.

The delegation is expected home early next week.

ZAMBIA

World Bank Pledges Continued Economic Aid

MB311918 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] The World Bank has pledged to continue assisting Zambia pull through her present economic crisis arising from poor copper sales at international metal markets.

The pledge was made in Lusaka today when visiting World Bank Vice President Willi Wapenhans payed a courtesy call on Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia at cabinet office. The Bank's assistance will be in the form of loans in mining and agriculture to help Zambia attain self-sufficiency in food. Other industries to benefit from the World Bank include the manufacturing sector, but Mr Wapenhans regretted to note that most African nations continued importing essential goods from distant sources in developing countries instead of getting them from neighbouring producers. He called for more inter-African trade.

Thanking the World Bank for its continued support to Zambia, Prime Minister Mundia assured Mr Wapenhans that the country is doing its best to overcome the problems, which had been compounded by the 2-year drought. The country was organizing meetings of its donor countries with a view to solicit for more financial support.

This week's SADCC conference was one such effort, and Mr Mundia said another donor meeting to deal with Zambia alone was being planned. The prime minister said Zambia would be forced to go to Paris again to seek rescheduling of loans in view of the drought and low copper prices.

ZIMBABWE

Trade Minister in London for Investment Talks

MB010758 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The minister of trade and commerce, Comrade Richard Hove, left Harare for London last night to attend a meeting on investment promotion in Zimbabwe which begins today. A ministry spokesman says the meeting, organized by the London Chamber of Commerce, will also be addressed by leading British Government officials and members of the business community.

Comrade Hove will proceed to Brussels where he will attend a meeting of the African, Carribean, and Pacific nations and the EEC next week.

Change to Segregated Voting System Sought

MB010720 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The registrar general, Comrade (Tabaiye Mudede), says whites cannot register on the common roll until the Constitution and the Electoral Act have been amended. Comrade (Mudede) was reacting to several requests by the white community who want to be enrolled on this common roll.

Last year, the then minister of legal and parliamentary affairs, Comrade Eddison Zvobgo, suggested that the Constitution be amended to allow any person classified as white to enroll on the common roll if he wished. There have been requests by many whites who want to do away with the segregated voting system brought about by the Lancaster House agreement.